

US expels 55 in tit-for-tat with Moscow

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The United States, in a stunning retaliation for the expulsion of 55 American diplomats from Moscow on Sunday, yesterday ordered 55 Soviet envoys out of the country by November 1.

The escalating tit-for-tat expulsions clearly have far-reaching implications for superpower relations at an intensely sensitive time in arms control negotiations following the Reykjavik summit.

The State Department accused all 55 of "activities inconsistent with their diplomatic status", the standard euphemism for spying.

It said that five of them - four in Washington and one at the Soviet consulate in San Francisco - were being ousted in direct retaliation for Moscow's weekend expulsions.

The State Department said Russia had 301 staff in Washington and San Francisco compared with the US total of 251 in Moscow and Leningrad. Moscow would be allowed to replace the five expelled in direct relation

for the ousted American envoys. Mr Charles Redman, the State Department spokesman, said that in expelling the other 50 the US had "corrected a long-standing imbalance in our relationship".

Asked how the US action would affect superpower relations Mr Redman said: "We remain committed to pursuing the dialogue stemming from the Reykjavik meeting in all areas of our relationship."

The round of expulsions began when the US ordered 25 employees of the Soviet mission to the UN to leave the country by October 1 for alleged spying. The last of them did not leave until late last week.

Mrs Thatcher, who postponed her journey after the Iceland summit meeting, will visit President Reagan at Camp David on November 15 to discuss the next moves on nuclear disarmament, it was disclosed yesterday.

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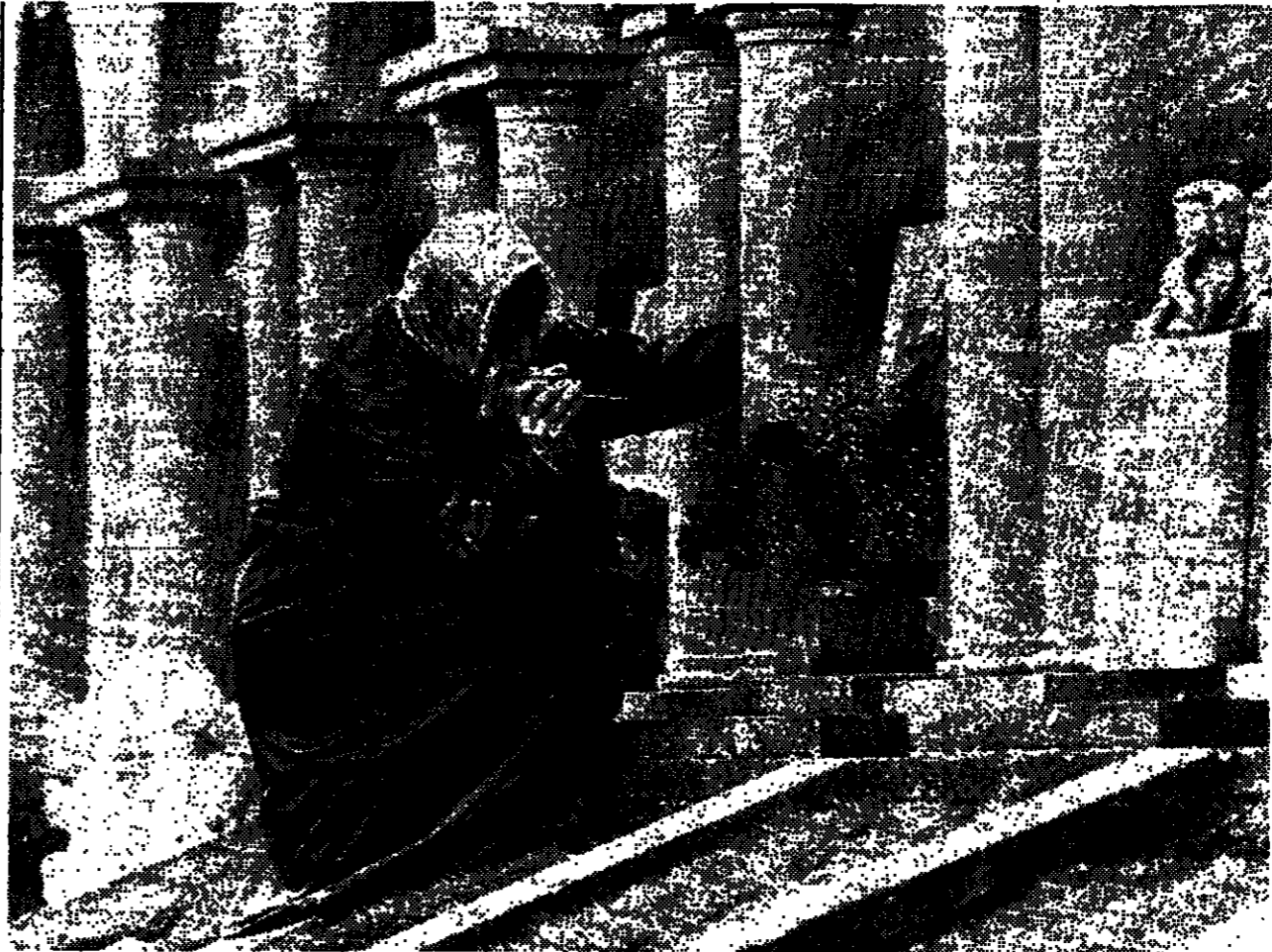
Senior Western diplomats predicted that they would draw a rapid and tough reaction from Mr Gorbachev. Well-placed Soviet sources said last night the Soviet government had regarded the sending home of only five American diplomats in response to the expulsion of 25 of its own personnel as an attempt to "cool down" the affair.

Meanwhile scores of American families here and in Leningrad were braced last night for possible savage retaliation.

Only a few hours before the American order, the Soviet Union had warned publicly of the possibility of the expulsion of more US citizens if Washington pressed ahead with a threat to retaliate against removal orders on the five Americans last Sunday.

Yesterday's warning had come from the Kremlin's chief spokesman, Mr Gennady Gerasimov, who told a crowded press conference that the Soviet authorities could have expelled more Americans.

"If the Americans insist on continuing this game according to the tit-for-tat principle, it can continue indefinitely," he declared firmly.



Aberfan 20 years on: A woman remembers at the graveyard where the victims are buried. (Photograph: Graham Wood)

People of Aberfan mark day of grief

Beneath a slate grey sky, the people of Aberfan marked the twentieth anniversary of the day catastrophe overtook their little village with private grief and public dignity.

In the immaculate cemetery looking down into the valley, they placed their wreaths and bunches of fresh flowers on the long row of graves of the 116 children who died, together with 28 adults, when the monstrous avalanche of coal black sludge engulfed the Pantglas Junior School.

It was not an occasion for tears, not here anyway. With the passing of two decades, Aberfan has come to terms with its tragedy.

"I don't know why you reporters think that 20 years is so special," observed the mother of Robert, aged nine, as she arranged her bouquet of red carnations around his headstone, watched curiously by her youngest son. "For us in Aberfan, the memory is always there, and most of us do the same thing on October 21 every year." There would be the usual short memorial service in the evening, at the Baptist Church on the main street this time.

Behind us, next to a black slate cross bearing the names of all the victims, there were more wreaths. From the Lady Mayor of Merthyr Tydfil: from the Zion Methodist Sunday School; from Merthyr Vale, the local pit, whose miners had once dug desperately for survivors with shovels and their bare hands. It was a foul day, an incessant downpour to compare with the rains that had washed Number 7 slurry tip down into the village all those years ago.

BBC admits MPs libel claim on Panorama report

The BBC yesterday unreservedly withdrew allegations broadcast in the current affairs programme, Panorama, that two Conservative politicians were linked with extreme racist, Nazi and fascist organizations.

The corporation agreed to a full apology, to be printed in next week's issue of Radio Times and to be broadcast in next Monday's edition of Panorama, in an out-of-court settlement of the libel suits brought by Mr Neil Hamilton, MP for Tatton, and Mr Gerald Howarth, MP for Cannock and Burntwood.

Mr Hamilton and Mr Howarth will each receive £20,000 in damages and legal costs of £240,735. The total cost to the BBC, including its own defence, was £500,000.

Both MPs said later that they had been fully vindicated and demanded that the BBC officials responsible be punished. "The techniques employed by Panorama were worthy of Dr Goebbels," they said in a statement.

"There was virtually no original material produced on the programme and there was a calculated conspiracy to tailor the 'evidence' to meet the programme's pre-determined line. It is scandalous that a public corporation which never ceases to boast about its alleged superior standards should have sunk to these depths and should have

Continued on page 24, col 1

Settlement offer was rejected repeatedly

Senior executives of the BBC strongly defended the Panorama programme for more than two years at a series of secret meetings with Mr John Wakeham, the Government Chief Whip.

A detailed chronology of the dispute made available to The Times, discloses that the corporation repeatedly rejected settlement terms proposed by the plaintiffs.

On the first occasion, in the summer of 1984, it refused their demands for £20,000 each in damages plus legal costs and a full apology.

In May this year, the BBC broke off the negotiations after insisting that it would not pay costs estimated at £100,000. This month it suggested a compromise: to settle the Hamilton case with £20,000 in damages, full costs and apology, while leaving the Howarth case pending.

Three days after the case began in Court 13 at the High Court, the BBC Board of Governors decided to accept the terms of both plaintiffs.

Halifax starts loan rises

By Martin Baker

The first in the widely expected round of mortgage rate increases came yesterday from the Halifax Building Society, Britain's biggest with 1.5 million borrowers. It added 1 1/4 percentage points to its mortgage and 3/4 percentage point to its investment rates from November 1.

Borrowers with mortgages of £30,000 will pay an extra £17.89 per month after tax relief.

Reactions from other lenders ranged from surprise at the timing and size of the increase to a cautious "wait and see."

The Halifax's announcement was described by Mr Terry Carroll, chief executive of the National & Provincial Building Society, as "a pleasant surprise for investors but a savage disappointment for borrowers."

After last week's rise in base rates the upward shift in the cost of home loans was inevitable. The questions to be answered were simply how much and when.

The societies spent the past week watching the money market rates - and each other - in an attempt to pitch their mortgage rates at a satisfactory level, and to do so once only.

Each change in the rate carries large administrative costs.

MORTGAGE PAYMENTS

Table with 3 columns: Size of loan (£), Monthly payment £, Now, New. Rows include 15,000, 20,000, 25,000, 30,000, 35,000, 40,000.

Borrowers with other societies are only indirectly affected by the Halifax's announcement. Homeowners can, of course, expect to pay more than at present. But some societies appear to see the Halifax's move as offering scope for a competitive edge.

The mortgage market has seen something of a petrol-pump style price war in recent months and it is far from certain that all the leading lenders will raise their rates as high as the Halifax.

Inside

The Fleet Street revolution



On the brink in the third extract from her book, The End of the Street, Linda Melvern gives the inside story of two crunch meetings with the unions over the staffing of the hi-tech Wapping plant

Page 14

Portfolio Gold

The daily £4,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition was shared by Mrs J Longson of Wiltshire, Cheshire, and Mrs R Davies of Malvern, Worcester. Details, page 3.

There is another £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list, page 29; how to play, page 24.

TIMES SPORT

Italian fears

FIFA, the world football body, and Italy, hosts of the 1990 World Cup, have begun discussions to curb English hooligans to prevent a repeat of the Heysel stadium disaster

Page 44

TIMES FOCUS

Good going

Executive business travellers are cosseted more than most because they spend billions a year on air and rail services. Do they get good value? Special Report pages 18-21

Table with 2 columns: Home, Overseas, Births, deaths, marriages, Business, Court, Crosswords, Diaries, Festivals, Leaders. Includes sub-headers like Letters, Obituary, Parliament, Property, Safe Rooms, Science, Theatres, Sport, TV & Radio, Universities, Weather.

Oxford students may ban Times

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

Oxford University Students' Union appears set to ban The Times from attending this evening's controversial debate on the former Ruskin lecturer, Mr David Selbourne, who is preparing legal action against the college for constructive dismissal.

The student union's 10-member executive committee met on Monday and thought that such a move would be consistent with the prevailing union council policy of refusing to subscribe to the four News International titles, The Times, Sunday Times, The Sun and The News of the World, as well as the two educational supplements.

The council, which is comprised of three representatives from each college in the university, also voted last Spring to stop despatching press releases to the publications until such time as the industrial dispute at Wapping is over.

Under the union constitution, the two sovereign bodies are the general meeting and the council. In the event of a clash of opinion, students can resort to a referendum. Mr Mark Stephens, President of the OUSU, said yesterday, however, that any

UK pulls envoys out of Beirut

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The Foreign Office announced yesterday it was withdrawing two diplomats from Beirut in a move believed to be connected to the Central Criminal Court trial of a Jordanian accused of planting a bomb on an Israeli airliner (Nicholas Beeson writes).

A spokesman said the diplomats and three envoys' wives were being pulled out "temporarily" after a "re-assessment of security."

A decision in the trial of Nezar Hindawi, accused of the bombing attempt, is expected by the end of this week. Evidence implicating Syria in the attack has been put forward by the prosecution.

Terms announced for privatization of BA

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Mr John Moore, the Transport Secretary, yesterday launched the Government's latest share sale aimed at raising up to £1 billion for the Treasury and adding millions to the growing number of small first time investors on the stock exchange.

But, despite the Government's determination to make British Airways as attractive as possible, he pledged that he would remain even-handed when making vital decisions which could affect its future.

Under the terms of the sale announced yesterday BA employees are to be "rewarded" with 295 worth of free shares plus a further two

for every one they buy at the full price up to £150 and a further 10 per cent discount on others they buy up to a maximum value of £2,000.

But plans by some staff, especially pilots, to obtain up to 25 per cent of the company were formally dashed by the announcement that no individual or group of individuals could hold more than 15 per cent of the total number of shares.

Mr Moore said yesterday "the flotation will provide a further major opportunity to strengthen the basis of individual share ownership in this country."

Protecting control, page 25

Harare riots over Machel's death

By Michael Hartnack, Harare

Crowds of protesters alleging South African complicity in the death of President Machel of Mozambique raged through Harare yesterday, sacking airline offices and making the first in a series of indiscriminate attacks on whites ever witnessed in this country.

Miraculously, no one was seriously hurt in three hours of rioting. Several thousand demonstrators gathered on the campus of the University of Zimbabwe and then marched three miles to the offices of the Malawi High Commission, which they pelted with bricks.

They then moved to the offices of South African Airways, smashing plate glass windows. The terrified staff - mainly women - tried to barricade themselves in the rear of the building.

As the rioters set fire to the premises, the staff fled through a back door with the apparent co-operation of some of the demonstrators.

The rioters then attacked the offices of the state-owned Air Malawi, trampling underfoot a portrait of President Banda, who has been accused of helping Mozambique's right wing Renamo rebels.

The demonstrators then began attacking passing white pedestrians and smashing the windscreens of cars driven by white motorists.

Photograph, page 7

Tory delight at polls

Conservative strategists are jubilant over privately-commissioned opinion polls which put the party level with the Labour Party on 39 per cent at the end of the conference season (Philip Webster writes).

According to the polls, whose results are now being studied at Conservative Central Office, the Alliance has sunk to 19 per cent.

The research shows the Tories benefited from confirmation at Labour's conference of its unilateralist defence policy.

Runcie marriage rumours 'scurrilous'

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The bishops of the Church of England yesterday condemned as "scurrilous and baseless" reports of a rift in the marriage between the Archbishop of Canterbury and his wife in two national newspapers.

The House of Bishops, which was holding its routine autumn meeting at Church House, Westminster, unanimously declared its confidence in and "thankfulness to God for" the leadership of the archbishop, Dr Robert Runcie, and deplored the distress these newspaper re-

MPs told they have lost right over migrants

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday confirmed in the Commons that MPs are to lose their automatic right to secure the temporary admission to Britain of passengers refused entry at air terminals and ports by immigration officers.

There were angry protests from Labour MPs as Mr Hurd defended the Government's decision during the Parliamentary recess to institute a visa control system for visitors from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh and from Ghana and Nigeria

Parliament, page 4

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NEWS SUMMARY

Leyland workers warned on offer

Workers at Leyland Trucks and Leyland Parts in Lancashire were urged yesterday to accept a new pay and conditions offer, which they rejected last week.

Top of the class

The first detailed survey of the Government's assisted places scheme, in which the state pays part or all of the school fees for children from low-income families to attend independent schools, shows a high success rate.

Murder claim

A CB radio user claimed to have murdered Nicola Fellows, aged 18, and Karen Hadaway, aged nine, shortly after they were found strangled and sexually assaulted near their homes on the Moulsecoomb council estate, Brighton, 13 days ago.

Driving ban 'record'

A record number of people were disqualified from driving in England and Wales last year. Statistics issued by the Home Office yesterday show that 160,000 were disqualified, 3 per cent more than in 1984, and the highest figure ever recorded.

Rate bar for sports

The Central Council of Physical Recreation yesterday launched a campaign to stop rate increases. Mr Peter Lawson, the secretary of the CCPR, has seen Mr Jeffrey Archer, the vice-chairman of the Conservative Party.

Games meeting

Dr John McKay, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, is to lead an attempt to resolve the £4 million loss on the Commonwealth Games. Dr McKay said yesterday he was seeking a meeting with Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland.

BT threat from its 'owners'

More than 130,000 British Telecom workers could become the first trade union group with shares in a privatized company to endanger its market performance if they decide next month to vote in favour of industrial action in pursuit of a pay claim.

Mortgage arrears led to man's death

Mr Michael Herbert, a father of two, took his life on Monday while bailiffs stood on his doorstep waiting to repossess his house because of mortgage repayment arrears. Mr Herbert, aged 38, who worked as a senior technician for British Telecom, and who had run up debts of more than £50,000 from a variety of creditors, had opened the door to the bailiffs from Bath County Court at 10.30am.

Irish deal 'will fail' claim

Ireland's leading Protestant churchman said yesterday that the Anglo-Irish agreement was doomed to fail as it lacked the support of a majority of loyalists (Richard Ford writes). The Archbishop of Armagh, Dr Robin Eames, who is primate of the Church of Ireland, said that Unionists felt "deep resentment and anger" over what they saw as interference by the Irish Republic in the running of the province.

School hit by salmonella

Health chiefs have ordered the disinfection of a school where staff and pupils have been affected by salmonella. Twenty staff and 36 pupils at Rayville Primary School, Bramley, Leeds, have contracted the disease.

Fire threat to holiday homes

A group which claims responsibility for arson attacks on holiday homes in Wales has written to the BBC in Bangor, Gwynedd, threatening further attacks. In the past month there have been four arson attacks in Gwynedd, including two cottages on the Lleyn peninsula where fires were discovered last Friday.

Ferries disrupted

The National Union of Seamen delivered another boost to Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday when they elected Mr Sam McCuskie, a moderate, as their next general secretary, replacing Mr Jim Slater who, under union rules, has to retire because of his age (Tim Jones writes).

Travellers hit by day strike

Thousands of British travellers to and from France faced long delays and severe disruption yesterday as French public sector workers staged a 24-hour strike. Channel ferries to and from Calais stopped running and flights between the two countries were cancelled, rerouted to airports outside France or delayed until after the dispute.

Prison staff fear deaths at centre

By Ian Smith

Risley Remand Centre is on the brink of unparalleled violence in which both prison officers and inmates might easily get killed, senior officers at the powder-keg prison believe.

Only immediate action to ease overcrowding and improve prisoners' conditions will prevent the inevitable alternative occurring. Mr John Bartell, chairman of the Prison Officers Association, said yesterday. If the Home Secretary refuses to act, then the 420 association members at Risley may hold an all-out strike.

Marriage guidance boosted by TV series

By Jill Sherman

A large number of married couples visited marriage guidance counsellors after an episode of the BBC television series Eastenders in which one of the characters went to her local marriage guidance council.

IRA suspect is the first to be extradited by Americans

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

William Quinn, the first IRA suspect to be successfully extradited from the United States, was flown from California by the RAF yesterday to be charged with the murder of a police constable 11 years ago.

He will appear before magistrates in south London today, after a five-year battle against extradition from the US.

The return of Quinn, charged yesterday with the murder of PC Stephen Tibble in West London in 1975, ended a saga which began with his arrest by the FBI in San Francisco in 1981.

Quinn, who is an American by birth, lived in Ireland from 1971 to 1979 and fought his extradition for the murder on the basis that the offence was politically motivated.

His latest appeal against extradition was lost in the United States last week. A new treaty between the United States and Britain makes extradition easier for some crimes claimed to be political in nature.

British Airways had refused to fly Quinn to London fearing IRA reprisals.

In the Hague yesterday, the Dutch Supreme Court ruled that Gerard Kelly, and



Mr Neil Hamilton (left) and Mr Gerald Howarth pictured with their wives yesterday after winning their libel action against the BBC.

Tory anger unleashed after BBC pays libel damages

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The fury of Conservative MPs and the Tory leadership over the standards of the BBC was unleashed yesterday in the wake of the settlement of the libel actions over allegations against Mr Neil Hamilton and Mr Gerald Howarth.

Another Conservative MP referred to in the off-airing programme "Maggie's Militant Tendency" is considering legal action over a claim that he was linked with a right wing anti-immigration movement.

There were calls for resignations of the BBC journalists involved in the programme and for limits to be placed on the amount of investigative journalism pursued by the corporation.

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, is to publish in full within the next seven days a complaint which the party has been assembling over the BBC's coverage of the Libyan bombing.

In the Commons there was loud cheering from Conservative MPs as the senior backbencher, Sir Peter Horder, said that the BBC's standards of service had sunk to an all-time low. Its duty was to educate, entertain and inform but it was now guilty of disinformation and even libel, he said.

Sir Peter told the Prime Minister that Mr Marmaduke Hessey, the new BBC chairman, should "root out those responsible".

Rise for NHS top managers

By Jill Sherman

Top managers in the National Health Service have been given an average 5.9 per cent pay rise, bringing their basic salary up to a maximum of £35,500.

The country's 800 general managers are also eligible for bonuses ranging from 5 to 15 per cent, reflecting special local factors. In addition, after the introduction of performance-related pay, general managers can earn an extra 4 per cent a year if they meet, or exceed, specified targets.

A regional general manager could earn up to £42,245 under the new arrangements.

The new pay rise announced in a Department of Health and Social Security circular, issued yesterday, is the second increase in general manager pay this year.

In May general managers coming from inside the service were given increases of between 3 and 9 per cent ranging from £500 to £2,200, back-dated to February.

But a DHSS spokesman yesterday emphasized that general managers had received no increases since short-term contracts were introduced in 1984.

The Bamber trial

By Michael Horsnell

If Jeremy Bamber is convicted of killing five members of his family, civil proceedings may be necessary to resolve legal disputes over his parents' wills, a court was told yesterday.

The jury in his trial at Chelmsford Crown Court was told that the farmer's son, who allegedly carried out the killings with a 22 rifle last year so he could inherit £436,000 from his parents, will not benefit under law if found guilty.

The jury had sent a note to Mr Justice Drake asking about the provisions of the two wills and who would benefit from them.

Mr Anthony Arlidge, QC, for the prosecution, said that a substantial beneficiary might be Mrs Pamela Bountford, sister of Mrs June Bamber, the defendant's mother, who has given evidence against him at the trial.

Jeremy Bamber, aged 25, denies killing his mother and his father, Neville, both aged 61, his step-sister Mrs Sheila Caffell, aged 27, who was originally suspected of the killings, and her twin sons, Nicholas and Daniel, aged six.

Earlier the jury, sitting for the fourteenth day, retired to their room to practice loading live bullets into a rifle magazine. The prosecution has alleged that the magazine was difficult to load and that the bullets left traces of oil and other residues. But Mrs Caffell was found with clean hands

Man 'turned robber to help dying mother'

By Michael Horsnell

A shy bachelor turned robber to ease the suffering of his elderly widowed mother, it was claimed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

"He knew she was dying and wanted to make her last days as comfortable as he could," Mr Colin Campbell, for the defence, said.

Jeremy Bamber, aged 25, denies killing his mother and his father, Neville, both aged 61, his step-sister Mrs Sheila Caffell, aged 27, who was originally suspected of the killings, and her twin sons, Nicholas and Daniel, aged six.

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'Son will not get £436,000 estate if guilty of murders'

By Michael Horsnell

and said that her listlessness at the time of the murders may have been due partly to the drug she had prescribed.

She was also accused with religion but the Bible found by her side was part of the evidence against Mr Bamber to fake her suicide.

Mr Arlidge asked whether Mrs Caffell, a "slip of a girl" who could have bludgeoned her well-built father into submission and said that she had shown no signs of having suffered any violence, and may have decided to offer no resistance to Jeremy Bamber.

Mr Arlidge said it was not up to him to defend the police, against whom suggestions of ineptitude have been levelled.

He added that the evidence given by Miss Julie Mugford, aged 23, Mrs Bamber's former girl friend who betrayed him to police, meant that either she or Bamber were "lying their heads off".

He said that Miss Mugford, a teacher, had needed great courage in facing police interrogation and going through a court appearance in which she had to admit she had been involved with Mr Bamber in a burglary, in forging cheques, and in smoking cannabis with him.

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Table with 2 columns: Country, Exchange Rate. Includes Australia, Canada, Denmark, etc.

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# Detective took part in £307,000 robbery with supergrass, jury told

By Craig Seton

A detective sergeant with Thames Valley police who acted as a "minder" to a major underworld informant later took part in a £307,000 armed robbery with him, it was alleged at Nottingham crown court yesterday.

Sgt Graham Sayer, aged 40, of Harvest Close, Reading, is accused of armed robbery together with the "supergrass" informant Roger Denhardt who has never been caught.

Sgt Sayer, of Harvest Close, Reading, has denied conspiracy to rob a post office van at Northon Post Office, Aldershot, Hampshire, in April last year and robbing a mail van of £307,000 at Oaktree Lane Post Office, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire in December 1985.

The money stolen in the armed robbery at Mansfield has never been found, the jury was told.

Mr David Elfer, QC prosecuting, said: "Last year two armed robberies were planned of Royal Mail vehicles as they were delivering remittances.

"Both were carried out by two men who, the prosecution say, were Sayer and Denhardt and on each occa-

sion one had a shotgun.

Mr Elfer said Sayer was a man with "considerable experience in crime detection, a CID officer for 20 years and a member of the Regional Crime Squad.

He knew the "inside, confidential information" about the delivery by post office vehicles because he had been involved in a case of that nature in 1983.

The first attempted robbery at Aldershot went wrong when the driver of a mail van slammed shut the van door as the would-be robbers, both disguised as joggers and one wearing a false beard ran off empty-handed.

Sgt Sayer had been questioned by police after being seen with Denhardt but the policeman protested his innocence and said "I am a police officer. I would not get involved in anything like that."

Later Mr Gareth Davies, a senior probation officer from Cornwall, told the jury that he first came into contact with Denhardt in Cardiff Prison in 1981 when he was to be released after serving only four years of his 13-year sentence for armed robbery.

Mr Davies said: "Sayer

confirmed to me that Denhardt was to have a new identity on release and his identity was to be Paul Cannon because he had been an informant to the police on a very grand scale involving robberies and raids on banks.

Sayer was to be the policeman, I was informed, to keep in closest contact with him."

Sayer was arrested thanks to a young couple who noted his car number moments before the Mansfield robbery and Sayer told police he took part because he feared a serious back injury would force him to retire. He claimed he was to get £30,000 but that he only carried out a reconnaissance and that Denhardt carried out the robbery.

Miss Maria Gowing, Detective Sergeant Sayer's daughter, who has changed her name by deedpoll, told the court how her father had met Denhardt.

She said that after the Aldershot robbery her father had warned her if she was questioned by the police not to say that Cannon had spent the previous night with him.

The trial continues today as Sayer denies robbery and conspiring to rob. The trial continues.



Dr Ronald Hedley looking to the Natural History museum's future yesterday (Photograph: John Manning).

# Museum entry fee to be compulsory

By Gavin Bell Arts Correspondent

Most visitors to the British Museum of Natural History will be required to pay an admission charge of £2 from next April, to compensate for an estimated shortfall in government funding of at least £1.3 million in the next financial year.

Dr Ronald Hedley, the director, said yesterday that without the additional income, the museum would have to close galleries, postpone exhibitions, curtail educational activities and eventually cut its staff by up to 100.

"The options the board of trustees had were startlingly clear. To maintain the existing

museum programme, let alone to innovate, with the current funding would lead to a decline in scientific activities and also affect the public galleries."

The museum is the second national institution of its kind to introduce compulsory admission charges, after a similar decision by the National Maritime Museum in 1984.

Executives said they expected other national collections to be forced to follow suit within the coming year.

The move has been opposed by trade unions representing employees at the museum, who have called for adequate government funding to maintain free public access to the national collections.

"The emphasis now is on

financial returns rather than public service," the unions said in a statement.

Dr Hedley, however, said that the trustees had tried to maintain a balance between the museum's needs and what was a "socially sensitive" admission policy. The real value of government funding was expected to decline by 3 per cent per annum over the next few years, he said.

The full adult rate of £2 will apply only to the Natural History Museum in South Kensington, London. Admission to the neighbouring Geological Museum, and to the Zoological Museum at Tring, Hertfordshire, will be £1.

Free admission will con-

tinues for pre-booked parties from schools and other educational institutions, for children aged under five, and for all visitors from 4.30pm to 6pm on Monday to Friday.

Half-rate charges will apply for children, students, pensioners, the unemployed, and disabled persons, and discounts will be available for small groups and regular visitors.

Dr Hedley said it was estimated that attendances could drop initially by up to 40 per cent, but it was hoped to recover visitors quickly with an ambitious programme of exhibitions and special events.

More than three million people visited the public galleries last year.

# Portfolio Gold Prize will pay for kitchen

Two readers share yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.

Dr Joan Longson, aged 61, from Wiltshire in Cheshire, has played the Portfolio Gold game since it started in The Times.

"I've played it since the very beginning," she said.

"But I did not realize that I had won until my son, John, phoned me at work and said: 'Mum, this is your lucky day'."

Dr Longson said that she intended using the prize money to pay for a new kitchen that was being fitted at the family home.

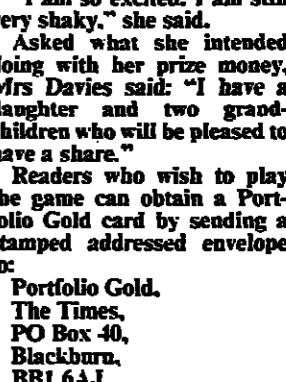
The other winner is Mrs Rebecca Davies, aged 71, from Malvern in Worcestershire.

"I am so excited. I am still very shaky," she said.

Asked what she intended doing with her prize money, Mrs Davies said: "I have a daughter and two grandchildren who will be pleased to have a share."

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.



Dr Joan Longson, good news by telephone.

# Protection plea for children

A lawyer will apply to the High Court to prevent the identification of two children, aged five and seven, who were involved in the death of a boy aged three weeks.

Mr Roger McCarthy told an inquest at St Pancras, north London, yesterday that he would be making an application under the Children and Young Persons Act, to have the names of the children banned from publication. If this was refused, he would apply to the High Court.

The two children are in council care. Dr Douglas Chambers, the coroner, said: "It is my inclination not to grant the request. The Act says may, rather than must, not identify the children."

After an adjournment, Mr McCarthy told the inquest he would be seeking an application in the High Court. Dr Chambers said: "There is more than just local interest in this case and a decision from a judge would be a guidance to other coroners."

The baby, Perry Osbourne, was staying with his parents, who are both unemployed, at the Berkeley Hotel, Albany Road, St Leonards, East Sussex, when the incident occurred on July 28. He died later in hospital.

The inquest was adjourned until November 18.

# Baby damaged for life, court told

A baby will suffer brain damage, hearing and sight difficulties for the rest of his life after being ill-treated by his mother and the man she lived with, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Paul Chadd, QC, for the prosecution, told Bristol Crown Court that doctors had seen the child with bruises on the head and body five times in 15 weeks. The parents could offer no adequate explanation for their existence.

"On the last occasion the injury to that child was so serious it suffered a fracture to the base of its skull, two broken ribs and consequent brain damage resulting in incomplete control of arms and legs and probable visual and hearing difficulties for the rest of its life," he said.

The mother, aged 20, and the man she lived with, aged 21, whose names have been withheld by order of the trial judge, Mr Peter Fallon, QC, both deny assault causing grievous bodily harm at their home in Hartcliffe, Bristol, last December. They also deny willful ill-treatment of the child, causing unnecessary suffering.

Mr Chadd told the court that the couple had taken the child to doctors on several occasions with injuries to its head and body.

Mr Chadd said: "On either

December 9 or 10 the man pushed the baby and the woman had fed and changed it. The child at that time had a fracture on the base of its skull, and two broken ribs.

"The woman had told police she had slipped while holding the baby and her head had knocked the front of his head. What happened to that child could not have resulted from an accident like that."

He said: "We are not dealing with a little tearaway damaging himself falling downstairs, we are confronted here with a helpless infant. It is a serious case because... on different occasions a child between the ages of 10 and 15 weeks was subjected to violence that went far beyond the normal."

The baby, shaking all over and with its lips turning blue, was taken to Bristol Children's Hospital after the final alleged assault. Dr Jane Crooks, paediatric registrar at the hospital, said his left leg was moving as if he was pedalling a bicycle and his lips and tongue were shaking. There were bruises on the back of his neck and on either side of his chin.

Mr Chadd said the accused man told the police that he fell over and injured the baby while moving him.

The trial continues today.

# School guilty of bias

A Spanish couple were awarded £500 damages yesterday after a judge upheld their complaint that a London private school was guilty of discrimination against foreigners.

Judge McDonnell made the award at Westminster County Court against Thomas's London Day Schools for the mental distress and injured feelings suffered by Señora Jose Carballo, general manager of the London branch of the Bilbao Bank, and his wife, Gabriela.

In the judgement on a three-day hearing earlier this month Mr David Thomas and his wife, Joanna, the principals of the 466-pupil school on four sites, were criticized for telling the Carballos that the prospects of their daughter, Laura, moving on to a school of their choice might be affected by the court proceedings.

"It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that the statement was understood and intended to be understood as a threat that if the plaintiffs pursued their claims Laura's interests would suffer," Judge McDonnell said.

Legal costs, estimated at nearly £10,000, were also awarded against the school, which the judge ruled was in breach of contract as well as the Race Relations Act, 1976.

The dispute began after Señora Carballo moved to London in 1983 and during the following year his daughters, Laura and Olivia, were accepted for entry at the school, which was recommended by friends.

But the school insisted that he should pay two terms' fees in advance, instead of the single payment required from British residents, to offset the problems caused by foreign parents, employed by multinational companies moving about a quarter of the school, at short notice causing academic as well as financial difficulties.

From the start of this year a system of paying a year in advance was introduced, which Mr Thomas said was welcomed by expatriates.

However, the rule was not applied to foreign nationals who had lived in Britain for some time.

# Deaconesses seek support

More than 600 deaconesses have petitioned Parliament to support their admission to Holy Orders as ordained deacons within the Church of England.

The church's General Synod passed a measure in July last year to admit women into the clergy which is now before both Houses of Parliament to be approved as law.

Deaconess Evelyn Hughes, chairman of the deaconess committee, yesterday handed a petition with 612 signatures to Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Castle Point in Essex, calling on the Commons to pass the measure. A clearly defined role or status within the church.

"This is not a backhanded way to get women ordained into the priesthood," Deaconess Hughes said. "We want that to be considered on its own merits."

"This is simply an attempt to give deaconesses a clearly defined status within the church. It has never been clear exactly what part we have within the three-fold order of the church's ministry."

"In general, the ecclesiastical system takes insufficient account of a deaconess and she is often at a loss to know where she fits in."

# Pop music aid to curb drug abuse

Leading pop singers joined Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, for the launch yesterday of a record in aid of Phoenix House, the national charity which provides live-in treatment for drug abuse victims.

The Prince of Wales has agreed to become patron of the charity, after frequently indicating his concern about the misuse of drugs. He visited a Phoenix House treatment centre in south London in February last year.

Miss Maxine Witham, co-ordinator of a publishing company which is part of the Cliff Richards organization, said that the pop music business was no longer seen as a place where drugs flourished. "The majority of people in the music business care a great deal," she said.

An album, *Live-in World*, will be released on November 17, featuring 17 songs written by artists including Paul McCartney, Elvis Costello, Bonnie Tyler and Holly Johnson. Royalties will aid Phoenix House in providing more direct treatment for those seeking help.

# 'Dreadful' assault in Brixton riots

A gang of masked men, armed with knives, carried out a "dreadful" attack on the occupants of a Stockwell house during the Brixton riots, Mr Justice French said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

One of the "petrified" people in the house, a secretary aged 24, was robbed and raped at knifepoint but her assailant's identity has not been established, the judge added.

The court was told that while she was being raped, her boy friend aged 25, a City broker, watched but was powerless to intervene. Two of his friends were slashed across the face with knives.

The girl was dragged into a downstairs room by one of the intruders, a ring was ripped from her finger and the contents of her handbag tipped on to the floor before she was forced to remove her clothing and raped.

Richard Leslie, aged 21, a factory worker of Union Road, Lambeth, convicted of taking part in the riot, was imprisoned for eight years. He was found guilty of four charges of robbery at the house and admitted a fifth count of robbing a barmaid of gold chains at knifepoint in the street.

Leslie had previously served a four-year term for stabbing a man to death.

A Lambeth student aged 23 - cleared on Monday of taking part in the house attack and rape - was sentenced to five years in prison. He was convicted of karate-kicking and robbing a casino croupier who was ambushed on his way to work. His dinner jacket and gold watch, later found at the student's flat, were stolen.

# Late night TV pop show 'to be permanent'

Popular music enthusiasts who want to "rock around the clock" are returning their televisions to try to pick up Yorkshire Television's all night *Music Box Show*.

The six hours of pop starting at midnight are screened seven days a week in the channel's reception area as an experiment. But viewers living in Lancashire and the North-east have been flooding Yorkshire Television with inquiries about how to redirect aerials and return sets to pick up the signal.

Yorkshire Television said its policy is to tell the enthusiasts to seek the advice of electronics experts.

The Leeds based company also disclosed last night that it is to extend the *Music Box* experiment until the new year, and the programme is set to become a permanent feature of the station's around the clock output.

Yorkshire Television say 600,000 viewers tune into the show every night.



The one-millionth Metro from Austin Rover came off the production line at Longbridge, Birmingham, yesterday.

The Metro, launched six years ago as the saviour of the state-owned car company, has regularly held the honour of Britain's top selling small car.

Although the company is still losing money, around £60 million in the first half of this year - the Metro has been

# Race ban for trainer in switch

Mr Stephen Wiles, the trainer of Flockton Grey, the two-year-old gelding involved in an alleged horse racing switch, was banned from holding a licence for five years by the Jockey Club yesterday.

Mr Wiles, aged 39, who has been training at Flockton, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire since 1979, was disqualified after a two-hour hearing at Portman Square, London, also attended by his wife, Mrs Elaine Wiles, and his father, Mr Frederick Wiles.

The disciplinary committee decided that all three had breached the rules of racing over the running of Flockton Grey in the Knighton Auction Stakes at Leicester in March 1982.

The horse won by 20 lengths. A subsequent investigation by police and racing authorities led to the conviction of Kenneth Richardson, a wealthy gambler and businessman, and two other men for substituting a "ringer" in a £36,000 betting coup.

Pictures, page 40

# Race ban for trainer in switch

there aren't enough women to fill public positions," she said.

Miss Margaret Joachim, chairwoman of the Fawcett Society, which has been campaigning for equal opportunities for women since 1866, said women still had to face hurdles such as the old boy network and the fact that many public appointments were not advertised.

The campaign has called for employers and trade unions to help women gain appropriate experience outside the workplace and assist government in developing appropriate selection criteria.

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, told the conference that his party would set a 50/50 goal for all men and women in public appointments.

"This represents an important talent bank that improves the old argument that

# Women launch their bank of 'talent'

women right across the spectrum.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, said he had just come from a policy and executive meeting of the Institute of Directors "where there were no women represented."

Welcoming the campaign, Mr Steel said Britain had so far failed to bring out the talents of at least half of its population. "Women are largely excluded from the corridors of power and literally hundreds of public bodies," he said.

A recent survey showed that only 18 per cent of members of public bodies were women and only 6 per cent of those bodies were chaired by women.

Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking and the Labour Party spokeswoman on women's issues, said

# Ex-soldier in acid case was 'Jekyll and Hyde'

The former soldier accused of scarring Debbie Brown, a stable maid, for life with sulphuric acid was yesterday branded "a Jekyll and Hyde" by his sister.

Philip Walters, aged 36, a former soldier in the Welsh Fusiliers, denies causing grievous bodily harm to Miss Brown, aged 19, by throwing the highly corrosive home-made acid at her after she had jilted him.

His sister, Mrs Angela Webster, yesterday told Bristol Crown Court: "He just seemed to have it in for Debbie. He kept on about Debbie - he wanted to get even with her. I've never known him to be like that with anyone before."

Mr Martin Wilson, QC for the defence, asked Mrs Webster, of Riverside, Cardiff, what she thought of Mr Walters' behaviour about the time he allegedly plotted the acid attack.

She replied: "I would describe it as like a Jekyll and Hyde. Normally, he was just Philip, but when he came to talking about Debbie his whole character changed and he became really vicious." She said she did not believe he would go through with the attack.

She also said that Mr Walters told her how he had put poisoned dog food in the

# Esso case is settled

Dr Cathy Sinclair, a personal adviser, who lost her claim against sex discrimination against Esso, the petrochemical company, last July, yesterday agreed a settlement with it.

Dr Sinclair, of East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire, had claimed at an industrial tribunal that she had twice had sexual propositions from senior male colleagues at the firm's plant at Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The tribunal's chairman, said that the company had a "genuine male-oriented aura."

A statement issued jointly by Dr Sinclair and the company said that she had "by her own accord elected to resign".

# Stabbed man is moved

Terry Thompson, aged 33, of Hambleton Close, Liverpool, a paraplegic, who was stabbed in the neck on a London-bound express train, was yesterday transferred to a spinal injuries hospital in Southampton, Lancashire.

Mr Thompson was found slumped on a carriage floor of the midnight Liverpool-London sleeper when it was forced to an emergency stop at Norton Bridge, near Stone, Staffordshire. He was taken to Stafford General District Hospital intensive care unit with a neck wound. His condition is still serious.

# Remand plea

George Stephenson, aged 35, of Edgar Road, Coventry, accused of murdering five people in their New Forest home last month, was remanded in custody for eight days yesterday after telling Winchester Magistrates that he will not consent to remands in his absence as his two co-defendants had done.

# Fish net £20m of EEC aid

The EEC will have spent more than £20 million this year on restocking Europe's salmon rivers, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr John Spencer, of the European Commission's directorate general for fisheries, who made the claim, was addressing the third International Atlantic Salmon symposium in Biarritz. The work includes fisheries management and control, and research and development.

Mr Spencer said that in spite of agreement on conservation measures, catches by fishing vessels from Greenland and the Faroes were still unacceptably high.

# Women launch their bank of 'talent'

By Trudi McIntosh

A "talent bank" listing nearly 600 women potential candidates for public appointments was launched in London yesterday by organizations representing more than one million women.

The list of women is part of a national Women Into Public Life campaign aiming for equal representation of women at all levels in public life.

Mrs Doreen Miller, chairwoman of the 300 Group, which is campaigning for a minimum of 300 women members of Parliament, said the list would be circulated to all areas of the public service, trade unions, the Confederation of British Industry and individual employers' associations throughout Britain.

"This represents an important talent bank that improves the old argument that

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there aren't enough women to fill public positions," she said.

Miss Margaret Joachim, chairwoman of the Fawcett Society, which has been campaigning for equal opportunities for women since 1866, said women still had to face hurdles such as the old boy network and the fact that many public appointments were not advertised.

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women were seriously under-represented in all walks of public life.

She said too many women were excluded by rigid qualifications and penalized because they had taken career breaks to look after their family.

Mr Geoffrey Morgan, director of the Public Appointments Unit, said his unit had the names of 1,000 women candidates but he was under pressure from ministers to supply more names.

"We want to see more women coming forward and submitting their names for review."

Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, said he welcomed the campaign and hoped the list of names would be submitted to all government departments.

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# Visitors from Africa will need visas, Hurd tells MPs

Visitors to Britain from Ghana will require visas from Thursday, the Home Secretary announced in the Commons yesterday. A decision was announced later for the implementation of visas for visitors from Nigeria.

Mr Douglas Hurd, in a debate on the subject last week, said he hoped time would be found to debate the necessary changes to the immigration rules before Parliament is prorogued next month.

Admitting that detention costs were a matter of concern, he said that last year about three-quarters of these costs were reclaimed from the airlines and they would be billed for the costs arising from the events of last week.

He accused the Opposition of wanting to tear a hole in immigration control so wide as to make it meaningless.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow Home Secretary, said the reason for imposing visas was not one of administrative necessity but of racial discrimination.

Mr Hurd said: I announced on September 1 that the Government had decided in principle to impose visas on citizens of Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

On October 6 I announced that the change in respect of the Indian subcontinent would have effect from October 15. For Ghana the date of implementation will be October 23.

It will be some time yet before the necessary arrangements for staff and accommodation can be completed in Nigeria, and we shall announce a date later for implementation. The necessary changes to the Immigration Rules have been agreed.

Four of the five countries already require visas for British citizens. We would have preferred to continue to allow their citizens to come here without prior examination, requiring pre-entry clearance only for settlement, employment and similar purposes.

But the pressure on the immigration control made that arrangement increasingly unsatisfactory and occasionally unworkable. The volume of traffic and its difficulty alike increased.

Excluding British and other European Community nationals, the number admitted grew from six million in 1981 to 8.5 million in 1985.

Whereas 13,000 of these passengers were refused admission and removed from the United Kingdom in 1981, the figure was nearly 18,000 in 1985 and rose to 24,000 in the 12 months ended June 1986.

Passengers from the five countries constituted a significant proportion of these refusals: 49 per cent in 1985 and 53 per cent in the year ended this June.

There has been no change in the qualifications for entry or in the practice of immigration officers. So these figures reflected the growing pressure of people not eligible for admission seeking to come to this country.

The need to examine passengers at the port of entry in detail submitted not only them but others to delay. While passengers were being examined they had either to be given temporary admission, often at risk to the control, or to be kept in detention, neither of which was satisfactory.

When those seeking entry from a particular country as visitors included a sizeable minority who may be trying to come here for other purposes it is much better that the necessary inquiries and authorizations should be made before the journey starts rather than under pressure at the port of entry.

In order to safeguard the interests of bona fide visitors, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary (Sir Geoffrey Howe) has strengthened the staff of our posts in the sub-continent so that visas can be issued in an orderly manner.

During the four days before the introduction of visas there was a sharp increase in the number of passengers from the subcontinent arriving at London Heathrow Airport.

Included among these were a substantial number of young people, particularly from Bangladesh, who were clearly trying to use the last days of the old system to take advantage of its weaknesses.

Despite the acute physical difficulties, I decided that these

## VISITORS' VISAS

men should not all be temporarily admitted at once, but should be examined in the usual way.

This process is now virtually complete. Since the introduction of the new system last week incoming flights have included only a handful of people from these countries without visas and the system is now working satisfactorily.

For the countries concerned it will now be at our overseas posts, not at ports of entry, that the main decision will be made.

The guidelines on the handling of MPs' representations will in our view need altering to reflect this. At the port of entry the immigration officer will normally no longer have to exercise a judgement on whether a passenger, claiming to be a visitor, is bona fide.

That judgement will now be exercised when the visa application is considered. There is of course a right of appeal against refusal of a visa.

I do not believe that in addition to this safeguard the airlines or travel operators should be led to believe that individuals arriving here without visas will be automatically admitted if a member of this House intervenes on their behalf.

This is a matter which the House will want to discuss. I shall not implement this change as regards MPs' representations until the House has had an opportunity to discuss it.

We have introduced what will prove to be a major improvement in the working of our immigration control. As the new system settles down it will improve the position of all bona fide travellers and ease the strains, particularly at Heathrow, which have gradually built up over the last year.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said Mr Hurd last week ensured that for many

The Home Secretary claimed that contingency arrangements were made. Did they allow for almost intolerable pressure on British Airports Authority staff and in the country of origin? Why, six weeks after the decision to impose visas, were extra officers still not being sent to those countries?

Mr Hurd said Mr Kaufman and his friends had cut ludicrous figures as they ambled about at Heathrow asserting that all these young men from the subcontinent were genuine tourists.

—What twaddle. Are we really asked to believe that they all happened to choose the third week of October to come and see the Tower of London?

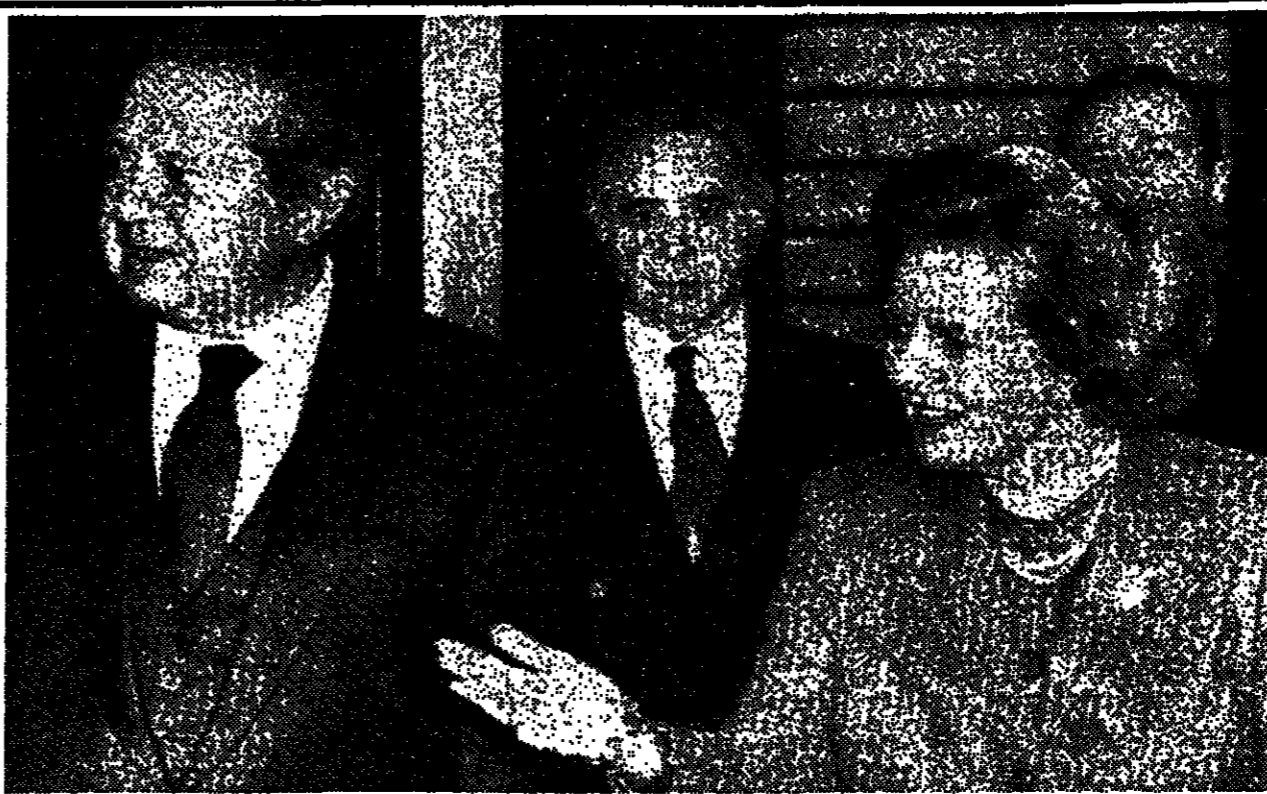
Mr Kaufman and his colleagues wanted to tear a hole in immigration control so wide as to make it meaningless.

The five countries were chosen because from them came a large and growing minority of people whose claim to come here simply as visitors aroused doubt. They were the only five countries to which 1,000 passengers in each case were returned last year.

Detention costs were a matter of concern. Last year we got back about three-quarters of these costs from the airlines under the arrangements we already had with them. They will be billed again for the events of last week.

This problem of detention and costs was one reason why the Government was doing away with the present system. It was a big advantage that in normal circumstances the exercise of judgement would be made in a calm atmosphere overseas rather than in a hurried and pressurized atmosphere at Heathrow.

On staff overseas, 39 extra staff were being sent, 16 were



President Mario Soares of Portugal (left) being welcomed at 10 Downing Street yesterday by the Prime Minister.

## Decision on EMS defended

### MONETARY SYSTEM

There is no change in government policy on the European Monetary System and interest rates would have gone up more sharply and more rapidly if Britain had been a member.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher told Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, during Prime Minister's questions.

Dr Owen had asked the Prime Minister to confirm the statement yesterday from 10 Downing Street by her Press Secretary, Mr Bernard Ingham, that the Government would not enter the EMS until after the next election.

—It has cost us heavily not being a member of the exchange rate mechanism and some millions of people face a 14 per cent increase in mortgage rates.

Mrs Thatcher: Many people ask us to go in thinking of it as the soft option, but there would have been a sharper and more rapid increase in interest rates if we had belonged.

INTEREST RATES: The Government was naturally reluctant to increase interest rates but when it became necessary to do so in order to keep downward pressure on inflation it did not hesitate to take that step.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government was naturally reluctant to increase interest rates but when it became necessary to do so in order to keep downward pressure on inflation it did not hesitate to take that step.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said that evidence in recent television programmes about the rapid decay of the health service. Millions of people did not believe a word Mr Fowler said about savings or anything else.

Mr Fowler: Record resources are being devoted to the health service. More important, a record amount of health care is being provided by health services under this Government.

No amount of television programmes can deny that.

Mr Fowler: As Minister, chief of the Opposition and Opposition spokesman on social security, both the National Association of Health Authorities and the British Medical Association believe that the NHS will be £650 million short this year even to maintain existing standards.

How will the Government pay for Mr Fowler's promises at the Conservative Party Conference to increase the number of hip and cataract operations, which in total will cost an extra £150 million a year?

Mr Fowler: I am not honest and admit that this can only be afforded by making major cuts elsewhere in the health service.

Mr Fowler: That is totally untrue. The money and resources for those improvements are already in our plans and build on the improvements we have made since 1978.

Since 1978, heart by-pass operations have risen by over

## Prime Minister using jobless as a weapon, says Kinnock

### QUESTIONS TO PRIME MINISTER

Far from trying to conquer unemployment, the Prime Minister was continuing to use it mercilessly as a weapon, Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said during Commons questions today when he urged her to increase spending on capital projects in order to generate jobs.

Mr Kinnock: Does the Prime Minister recall saying just 11 days ago at the Conservative Party Conference that she wanted to conquer unemployment, North and South?

How does she reconcile that with her own Government's admission to the European Regional Development Fund that changes the fact that this is a devastating document from within the Government in view of the Government's record.

If she is concerned about unemployment why does she not take the hint from the report and undertake public investment in Wales, Scotland, the North-east, the North-west and the South-west of England to generate jobs now and provide for jobs in the future instead of following the policies she insists on?

Mrs Thatcher: The report to which he is referring was compiled from submissions from local and other public authorities designed to support the bid for grants from the Euro-

### QUESTIONS TO PRIME MINISTER

pean Regional Development Fund.

The figures to which he refers are the very same planning assumptions that appear in the public expenditure survey and there is nothing new.

It is these figures which applied to existing differentials. We have followed the practice of previous governments.

Mr Kinnock: None of that changes the fact that this is a devastating document from within the Government in view of the Government's record.

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Mrs Thatcher: If he is kicking our record on providing capital expenditure for infrastructure, it was the last Labour Government that cut public sector capital expenditure by 20

per cent, cut NHS capital expenditure by 30 per cent, cut expenditure on roads by 36 per cent. It is we who have restored many of these public sector programmes.

Mr Kinnock: Nobody believes that. Will she tell us whether she is prepared to accept the demand from the CBI that, unless the Government takes the initiative now on capital projects, the UK will lose the chance and will slip further behind in the competitive league?

If she will not listen to demands from North and South, from this side of the House and many others, will she accept the demands of the CBI?

Mrs Thatcher: May I say exactly what has happened on road spending (protests). They do not want to hear the facts...

On roads, capital spending on motorways and trunk roads increased by 25 per cent in real terms to £900 million. NHS capital expenditure increased by 22 per cent in real terms since 1979 and has increased to £2.5 billion on railways, £5 billion in the gas industry on fixed assets and capital spending on housing renovation is up 54 per cent in real terms.

Which of these figures does he say is wrong?

## Government plans over 100 large hospital schemes

### HEALTH

Over the next three years the Government planned to complete more than 100 large new hospital schemes and altogether about 300 hospital schemes in the building programme, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said during Commons questions.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said that evidence in recent television programmes about the rapid decay of the health service. Millions of people did not believe a word Mr Fowler said about savings or anything else.

Mr Fowler: Record resources are being devoted to the health service. More important, a record amount of health care is being provided by health services under this Government.

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Since 1978, heart by-pass operations have risen by over

BBC television programme which showed that Mr Fowler's claims, when analysed in depth, showed a contraction in nursing available for patient care.

—If Mr Fowler does not accept the analysis, will he take *Panorama* to court?

Mr Fowler said he did not think the opportunity of taking it to court arose. He did not accept the statement as Mr Kennedy had reported it. Since 1978 there had been almost 63,000 more nurses and midwives in the National Health Service.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C, A) said that there were 66,000 more nurses and 22,000 more doctors in the health service, yet still hospital beds are being closed and our letter bags get fuller and fuller with complaints about delays for operations.

Hospital manpower, possibly was going too much into administration and not enough into nursing. It was time patients had more say in the matter than those who ran things.

Mr Fowler said he had much sympathy with the last point. Money on direct patient care had increased and that was the emphasis of the manpower policy.

Mr Frank Dobson, Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said there was evidence, not only in last night's *Panorama* but other evidence all around the country, that doctors were spending a vast amount of time having to look for empty beds for patients who needed them.

There should be better plans for manpower.

Mr Fowler said a record number of in patients were being treated, hundreds and thousands more than under the Labour Government.

## Mortgage lenders 'must be careful'

### MORTGAGES

Mortgage arrears leading to repossession were worrying, but bankers building societies and other lenders of mortgage funds needed to take more care to ensure that borrowers would be able to pay back the money over the contract period.

Lord Skelmersdale, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions time in the House of Lords.

In reply to a question by Lord Beswick (Lab), he had said that the government policy of encouraging home-ownership was not affected by the present trend in house prices in the south-east of England.

Lord Beswick said: As the Government is claiming credit for bringing inflation down to 3 per cent, it cannot escape responsibility for the fact that house prices in the south-east of England have risen 16 per cent, 20 per cent in London and 40 per cent in certain sectors.

With the current inlormal interest rates, it is not home ownership impossible for many deserving young couples and a misery for many who achieve it, as shown by the one in twenty facing repossession orders?

Lord Skelmersdale: The Government rightly claims credit for reducing the rate of inflation which has raised the real level of incomes in the South-east. The number of first-time buyers has risen every year since 1980, according to building society figures, with 85,000 in 1985, compared to 75,000 in 1980.

Lord Melish (Ind): The demand for new housing is that the "spivs" are moving in, buying houses for £20,000 and holding on to them to sell later for £80,000 or £90,000.

Lord Skelmersdale: The Government does not intend to "give" or "cowboy" this. This is a situation which needs watching, but I do not think the evidence suggests this is happening on a widespread scale.

Lord Winstanley (L): In London the best houses renovated to such a high standard that nobody can afford to live in them. It is economically desirable there should be enough ordinary houses for ordinary people.

Lord Skelmersdale: That is exactly why the Government is encouraging local authorities to take up the 100 per cent allowances for capital receipts for low-cost home ownership. The building societies do not report any difficulty in selling property.

Lord Nordfield (Lab): If the average earnings in the South-east are about £200 a week, that allows a mortgage of up to £30,000. That means that people on average earnings in the South-east cannot now afford newly built houses.

Lord Skelmersdale: That presupposes that all houses in the South-east are newly built.

Lord Clewley of Penton, Leader of the Opposition peers: A house in North London in a pleasant situation would cost around £30,000. That same house in London would cost £125,000 to £150,000. How does the Government justify that?

Lord Skelmersdale: The Government does not have to justify it. There are people in the South-east who can afford and do afford to pay the prices asked.

## Weatherill's tribute for ex-Speaker

Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, in a short statement to MPs, paid tribute to Lord Maybray-King, who as Dr Horace King, was Speaker from 1965 to 1970. Lord Maybray-King died during the summer recess.

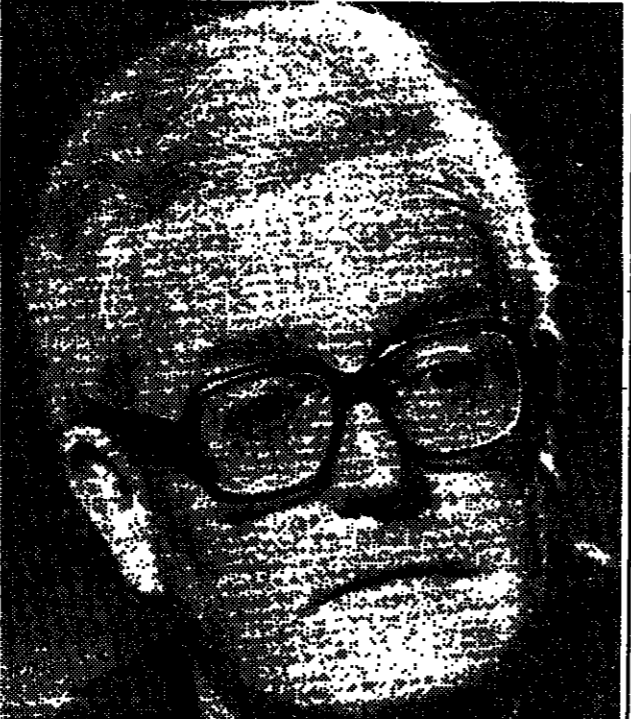
He said that Horace King was the first Speaker to be elected from the Labour benches. During his term of office he maintained a close community with backbench MPs from whom he had been elected.

With his sense of humour he had been able to defuse difficult and even menacing situations. He valued his memory and sent sympathy to his family.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Sex Discrimination Bill; progress on remaining stages.

Lords (2.30): Housing and Planning Bill, report stage.



Mr Hurd, who said detention costs were a matter of concern, already there and four more were going today.

Sir John Biddis-Davison (Epping Forest, C) said it was sad that an argument had developed between two senior Commonwealth countries in that Mr Rajiv Gandhi had accused the Government of racism.

Was it not commonsense that much disappointment and unnecessary travel could be avoided by people in those countries if their position was clarified before they left home?

Mr Hurd said he could only assume that Mr Gandhi made that remark when he was deeply misinformed of the situation.

Mr Robert Maclean (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP) said the minister was presenting an extremely ugly policy. This was a message to foreign visitors to this country, saying: "Black faces are not welcome here."

Last week seven students from Chad, paid for by the Government, invited here by the British Council, were refused entry by immigration officials at Heathrow and sent back to Chad at British taxpayers' expense.

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## Let me stand, Huckfield asks NEC

By Philip Webster Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Leslie Huckfield, the controversial left-winger, has made a personal plea to members of Labour's national executive committee not to block him from standing in the imminent Knowsley North by-election.

The NEC will decide today whether to take the unprecedented step of imposing a candidate on the constituency in order to prevent Mr Huckfield, who has the support of the Militant Tendency, from being the candidate.

Senior members of the executive have given notice that they will fight Mr Huckfield's candidature for a contest regarded as crucial in the run-up to the next general election.

But yesterday all NEC members received a letter from Mr Huckfield emphasizing the strength of support in the local party for him, and asking the NEC to allow the

Knowsley party to decide who should be its candidate.

The Alliance is hoping to use the by-election, which could be next month, as a launching pad for a comeback after its disappointing conference session.

Neither the Labour leadership nor the large centre-right grouping on the national executive want Mr Huckfield to be the party's standard bearer in that contest.

But if the selection process had been allowed to go ahead as planned, Mr Huckfield, the European MP for Merseyside East, would almost certainly have been chosen, having gained far more nominations than any other candidate in the field.

An NEC inquiry into whether Mr Huckfield broke a pledge not to stand for a Westminster seat while a European MP was being completed yesterday.

The team, Mr Kenneth Carr, Mrs Diana Jenda and

The Alliance is clearly hoping that Mr Huckfield will be selected. He is backed by the Militant Tendency and would give the Alliance an obvious target in its efforts to deride Mr Neil Kinnock's purge of Militant infiltration.

There were signs of relief in the Alliance camp yesterday at a reported move which appeared to have switched the balance towards Mr Huckfield.

The Transport and General Workers' Union, on whose parliamentary panel Mr Huckfield appears, informed the party that he has been given the overwhelming backing of the union's north-west region.

If Mr Huckfield is selected, Labour faces the problem that Mr Peter Fisher, the former election agent of Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, whose resignation caused the vacancy, will stand as an independent Labour candidate.

Mr Charles Turnock will report to the NEC today.

A favourite for the seat if the NEC decides to impose a candidate is Mr George Howarth, a former deputy leader of Knowsley Council. But there are many in the Knowsley party who would be willing to defy the NEC

## Kinnock aims for the young

### By Richard Evans

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday intensified Labour's attempt to win over "Thatcher's children" — the 6.2 million young people who have reached voting age since the Prime Minister entered Downing Street in 1979 — by labelling the Government as "anti-young".

The party leader used the launch of Students for a Labour Victory at Westminster to try to galvanize the 18-to-25 age group, which now accounts for 15 per cent of the electorate and is crucial to Mr Kinnock's chances of winning the next general election.

A recent survey in *The Times* disclosed that the young are cynical and deeply apathetic about politics and up to two-thirds may not vote at the next election. Of the 2.1 million who intend to vote, more than half plan to back Labour.

## Direct mail successes delight Tory chiefs

### By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Tory Party direct mail operation aimed at floating voters has clocked up its thousandth member. It was disclosed yesterday. The mailings, begun in the late summer, to young householders and shareholders in the newly privatized British Telecom are now running at 170,000 a month.

The operation was originally conceived as a "communications exercise" designed to find out what the public wants to see in the next Conservative manifesto.

The sudden surge in Tory membership, which now stands at about one million people, and the extra cash are an unexpected bonus and are delighting party strategists. This week letters were sent to 60,000 BT shareholders from Mr Norman Tebbit, the Tory chairman, contrasting government policy with Labour plans to take privatized industries into social ownership.

If they prove as successful as an earlier pilot shot to 10,000 shareholders, they will be followed by letters to all of the company's investors.

Every month, the Tories are also mailing 80,000 householders, mainly in the 25-to-34 age group, inviting them to list their current concerns, join the party and make donations.

So far, 170,000 letters have been sent out and processed. They have generated 10,000 positive responses of which 10 per cent have asked to join the Conservative Party.

The replies are being fed into the head office computer for analysis. First results suggest that education and health are topping the target group's list of concerns.

Party chiefs have also been heartened by the pattern of replies. They say that the level of cash donations for the October mailing is more than twice that of September.

## Ministers accept a defeat

### By Sheila Gunn Political Staff

The Government has reluctantly accepted a defeat on the Financial Services Bill and agreed to allow more lay members to sit on the self-regulation bodies which will oversee investment business.

Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Government, said yesterday that he would put down an amendment at third reading of the Bill next week to ensure that the self-regulation bodies would represent "proper balance between the interests of authorized persons and the public".

The Bill finished its report stage in the allotted three days after private talks outside the Lords.

The Opposition eventually agreed to leave the question of whether professional bodies should be immune from prosecution until the third reading debate next week.

1520

# Bill is set to clear up the confusion of marriage law

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Mr Keith Owen will be able to marry his mother-in-law, June, next month because of a reform of the marriage laws which has slipped through the Commons practically unnoticed.

The Owens are typical of couples who, until November 1, cannot get married because they are related by marriage. Mr Owen, aged 35, a car components salesman, from Yorkshire, and Mrs Owen, aged 25, fell foul of the present law because June was married to Keith's father, Hugh.

They had started on the costly, time-consuming and embarrassing procedure of steering a private enabling Bill through Parliament in the hope of getting permission to marry.

But a new measure, passed this summer, relaxes the law banning marriage between those related only by marriage, such as in-laws and step relations.

It comes after a long, acrimonious dispute between the church, Parliament and the courts and bishops sitting in the House of Lords insisting on adding conditions to the measure to limit its scope.

The Marriage (Prohibited Degrees of Relationship) Act, surprisingly, slipped through the Commons "on the nod" one Friday afternoon in the

summer. One cry of "object" would have killed it.

With the sharp increase in divorces and, with it, a rash of complex family relationships, the demand for a change in the law has been growing.

The Archbishop of Canterbury set up a committee, chaired by the Liberal peeress, Lady Sear, to look at some sort of reform. A report, *No Just Cause*, came out of this in 1984 - but was far from unanimous.

But it resulted in Lord Meston, an hereditary Liberal peer and family lawyer, introducing the successful Bill.

The new law will allow a man to marry a step-daughter - or a woman to marry her step-son - provided the couples are aged over 21 and have never lived together as a family.

The same age condition is put on a man or woman who wants to marry an in-law, with the added stipulation that the intervening people must be dead. This means a man can marry his mother-in-law so long as his wife and his father-in-law are dead.

The Owens have sent an invitation to their wedding next month to Lord Meston. But many other couples will still have to take on the complex private Bill procedure with no guarantee of success.



A "VIP host" on the big clean up campaign assists two Israeli visitors in Trafalgar Square (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater)

## Dawn launch for Branson's clean up

By Angella Johnson

Eight young people arrived at Trafalgar Square at 6am yesterday to launch the first of Mr Richard Branson's "Clean up Britain" projects. Called "VIP Hosts", their task is to act as friendly information guides to the capital's tourists.

Mr Peter Smith, aged 32, from Basingstoke, Hampshire, was out of work for more than a year when he answered an advertisement for a project supervisor for the clean up brigade and became a "VIP Host".

"Contrary to popular belief, this scheme is aimed at unemployed people of various ages and not just youngsters. I am hoping the experience and training will put me in good stead for a permanent job in the travel industry," he said.

Carol James, aged 20, from Battersea, south London, has similar ambitions. She was unemployed for several months when she saw the project advertised in her local *Jobcentre*.

Dressed in bright red trackuits and armed with information leaflets about famous London landmarks, the group's first customers were two Israeli visitors wanting to know how to get to the Houses of Parliament.

Then they greeted three visitors from Hong Kong who wanted their holiday snaps taken, and a French couple asking where the nearest post office was.

The scheme, which is headed by Mr Branson, the airline owner, runs for a one-year trial period.

## Challenge for bus routes in the North

By Rodney Cowton

Competition on local bus services, which is being introduced next Sunday outside the London area, will receive a big boost early in the new year when an international transport company plans to start competing in the area south of Manchester with 225 new buses.

New services in the area of Altrincham and Stockport will be introduced on January 26 by United Transport International, with which Mr Robert Brook, a former chairman of the National Bus Company, is closely associated.

They are having to wait until January because although competition will be permitted from next Sunday, those who wanted to operate services during the first three months had to register them by last February.

Mr Robert Wilmer, of the company, said that later next year they intended also to start operations in the Leeds and Bradford area, probably with about 100 buses. They would be operating services for local communities, and in the suburbs there would be "tail and ride" services with a frequency of five to 15 minutes.

Initially there will be direct competition on only about 3 per cent of route-miles outside London.

## Cirrhosis warning to drink law reformers

Demands for more relaxed licensing hours in England and Wales were yesterday criticized by an alcohol expert.

He claimed liberal opening hours in Scotland, the model held up by campaigners as an example for the rest of Britain, had led to a big rise in cirrhosis of the liver.

Mr Steven Allsop, director of alcohol studies at Paisley College, near Glasgow, said that since 1976, when the Scottish Law was liberalized, cirrhosis had risen 32 per cent north of the border, compared with 20 per cent in England and Wales.

In the same period, alcohol consumption in Scotland had risen by 13 per cent overall.

Mr Allsop said: "I am not saying we should go back to before 1976. We like the extra hour in the evening and Sunday opening. But we have gone too far, with morning opening, afternoon opening and late night opening." He was addressing a conference of medical experts in Edinburgh.

"The current claims of success of all the Scottish changes are based on the support of vested interests."

Mr Allsop was speaking at a one-day seminar, organized by "Action on Alcohol Abuse", a campaign founded by the medical profession to tighten controls on the sale and advertising of drink.

## Test case on right to shoot dogs

Farmers' long-held belief that they can shoot dogs that are worrying sheep, is to be questioned in a court case at the end of this month.

A West Yorkshire smallholder, who shot two dogs worrying sheep on his land, faces prosecution at Todmorden Magistrates' Court, West Yorkshire, on October 30 under the Criminal Damage Act, 1971.

The rare proceedings are being regarded in farming circles as a test case over the rights of farmers to protect their sheep flocks.

Mr Ian Rees, a solicitor, of Huddersfield, who represents the smallholder, had appeared in the solicitors' weekly journal, *The Law Society Gazette*, for information from other solicitors who may have been involved in similar cases.

He said yesterday: "It has been a long-held belief that farmers can shoot dogs that are out of control and are worrying sheep.

"This case could well establish legal guidelines on the rights of farmers faced with such dog-worrying situations."

Mr Rees says the question whether it was "reasonable" for the smallholder to shoot the dogs is expected to be raised before the magistrates.

## Man faces rare stamp charges

William Raife Wellstead, aged 56, of Ben Jonson House, the Barbican, London, former curator of the National Postal Museum in King Edward Street, High Holborn, appeared on remand before Guildhall magistrates yesterday on 11 charges of stealing rare stamps and defrauding the Post Office.

He was further remanded until December 2.

Mr Wellstead is accused of stealing numerous rare stamps, including King George V commemoratives.

## Safety drive for riders

A campaign for the compulsory wearing of safety helmets by horse riders on the highway has been launched by Essex County Council.

It is also asking the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents to consider compulsory third party insurance for riders on the roads.

## Crash inquiry

British Rail has launched an inquiry after a locomotive was in collision with a freight train at the Moorswater sidings near Liskeard, Cornwall.

## Residents fight demolition plan

By David Cross

Residents in Wimbledon, south London, are angry that their local council has begun to demolish a fine late Victorian house in the town centre shortly before a public inquiry opens into an adjoining multi-million pound civic redevelopment scheme.

But the council's director of development denied yesterday that it had jumped the gun.

Mr Paul Godier, Labour councillor for the town centre ward in Merton, said yesterday that local residents were at "the end of their tether. No-one can understand why the council is behaving in this way." The demolition work, to make way for a new Baptist church, would cost ratepayers £2,500,000 without any guarantee that the whole scheme would be approved, he said. Under the redevelopment plans, most of the existing buildings, which include the town hall, civic hall, magistrates' court and fire station, would be demolished to provide a shopping centre to be built in conjunction with Speyhawk.

But local residents, who have been opposing the complete redevelopment of the site, are fighting for an alternative which would preserve all the existing buildings.

They expect demolition work on a second Victorian house to begin shortly after the council obtains a High Court order to remove squatters.

Describing the protests as a "storm in a tea-cup", Mr Chris Carter, director of development for Conservative-controlled Merton council, said opponents of the redevelopment scheme were using "every avenue open to them" to confuse the situation.

Many office buildings put up only 20 years ago now seem "almost neolithic" for the needs of today's office users, according to a report published today (Charles Kneivitt writes).

The report, *Workplace 2000*, compiled by the architects, Scott Brownrigg and Turner, and P E Consulting Services, envisages "company villages" as a logical alternative to the traditional office building.

These would feature shopping arcades, banks, restaurants with subsidized food, gyms and keep-fit units, relaxation areas and maximum car parking facilities, linked to the office working environment.

"In financial terms, healthy workers make a greater contribution than unhealthy ones, and the difference is so great that, in many organizations, it far exceeds the cost of these facilities. Quality of life is, therefore, important to employers, as well as to employees," the report says.

Denying strenuously that the council had jumped the gun by beginning demolition work before the opening of the planning inquiry on November 25, he pointed out that the new Baptist Church scheme was not even included in the civic centre scheme per se.

● In the Cotswolds, North-avon District Council's decision to allow a £100 million regional shopping centre at Cribbs Causeway on the northern outskirts of Bristol has led to a public dispute.

Bristol city council has bitterly attacked the scheme.

The city council fears for the future of its own centre shopping development at Broadmead.

When cotton yarn processors James Sutcliffe & Sons Ltd were told of the massive savings they could make by switching from oil to electricity they were, frankly, sceptical.

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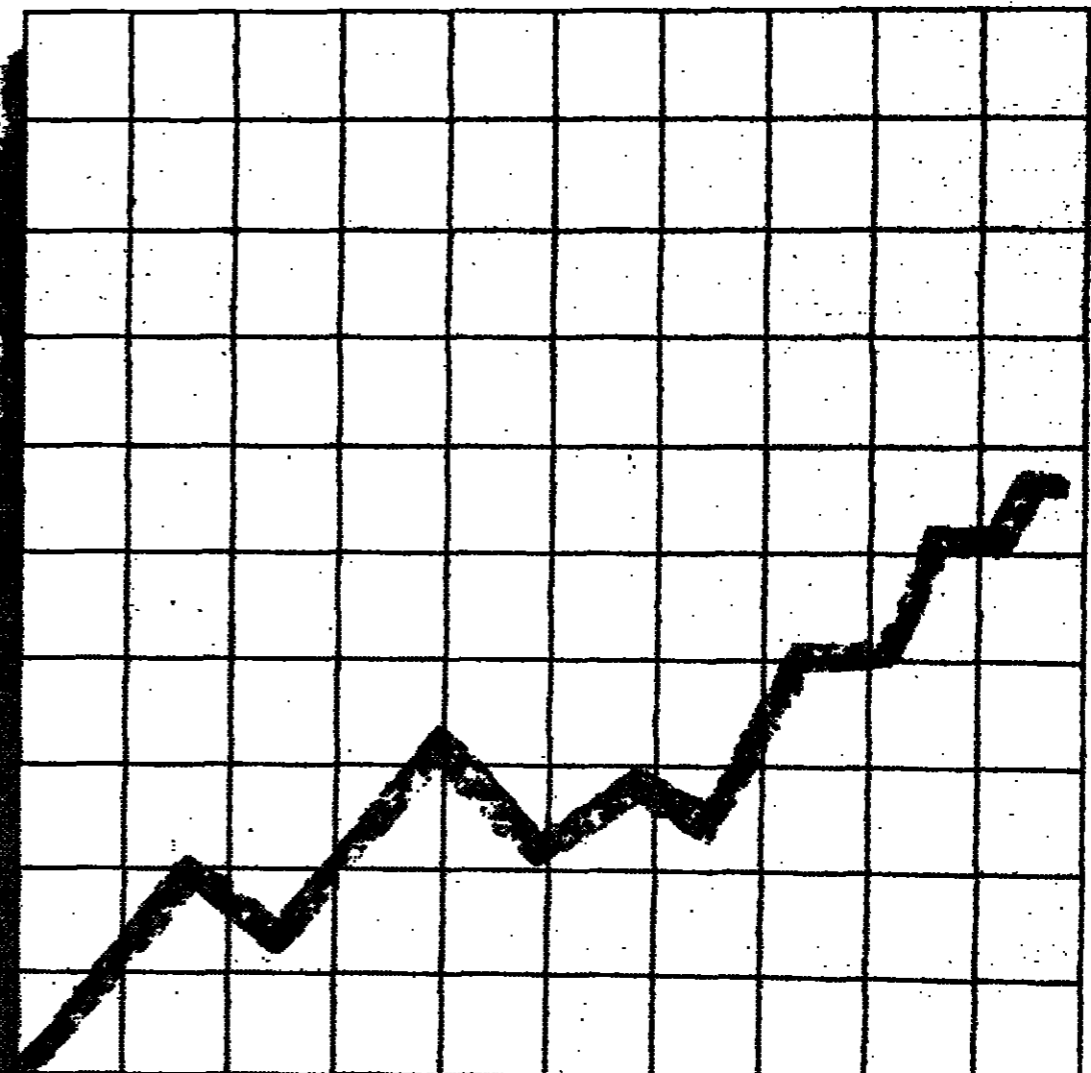


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After Machel: Party turmoil • Business chaos • EEC doubt

Rebels hope for victory as Maputo power struggle looms

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg
The death of President Machel of Mozambique in a plane crash on Sunday is certain to have a profound effect on the southern African region as a whole.

A key question will be the ability of whatever government emerges in Maputo to pursue the civil war against the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), the insurgents who have been fighting the Marxist Frelimo Government almost from the moment of independence from Portugal in 1975.

What happens in Mozambique is of vital concern to land-locked countries in the region, particularly Zimbabwe and Zambia, because its ports and railway lines are their shortest and most economical route to the sea.

So long as full use of these outlets is prevented by civil strife and economic and administrative mismanagement, it will be impossible to weaken the stranglehold which Pretoria has on the region's trade, most of which now passes through the South African road, rail and port system.

For Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe - who had a close personal rapport with President Machel - there is the additional worry that he could get sucked ever deeper into an expensive and endless military involvement in Mozambique.

Zimbabwean troops have been deployed in Mozambique for about four years, first to guard the Mutema-Beira oil pipe and railway line, and over the past year or so on a larger scale, to provide general assistance to the Mozambican Army.

It has been an unhappy experience for Harare. Zimbabwean generals have not been impressed by the performance of the demoralized and disorganized Mozambican troops, which have proved unable to defend gains - such as the capture of the MNR's main base, Casa Banana, last August - achieved with Zimbabwe's help.

Statements by MNR officials in Lisbon, the organization's exiled base, suggest that they now believe they have a chance to achieve an outright military victory against Frelimo, with or without South African backing, which has eluded them so far.

Now that President Machel's unifying presence has been removed, they predict a prolonged and bitter power struggle between the pro-Moscow, pro-African nationalist and pro-Western factions in Frelimo which will further demoralize the Army and weaken resistance to the MNR.



Tear gas hanging over Harare yesterday after riot police dispersed thousands of demonstrators who beat up passing whites after attacking South African and Malawi airlines and government offices in the city centre.

Renamo brings economy to standstill

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon
The Mozambique National Resistance Movement, the rebel organization which has fought against the Frelimo Government of President Machel for the past 10 years, sees its chances of winning the prolonged civil war enhanced by the President's death.

The MNR, better known as Renamo, was founded in 1976 after Portugal granted independence to Mozambique in 1975. Attempts then to bring together Mr Samora Machel's Frelimo liberation movement - which had fought the Portuguese for 12 years - and other political forces to hold elections failed. This brought into power the Marxist-Leninist Government of Mr Machel.

The armed clashes in Maputo which followed, combined with President Machel's policy of nationalization, expulsion of foreigners and the sentencing of dissenters to labour camps, caused hundreds of thousands of Portuguese, Indians and Mozambicans to flee to Rhodesia, South Africa and Portugal.

From among these refugees, Renamo was formed and financed. Until 1980, Renamo was very dependent on Rhodesia and South Africa, but after Rhodesia became Zimbabwe and there was the threat of civil war, Renamo turned almost exclusively to South Africa and the Portuguese ex-colonials there.

Renamo's first leader and president was Andre Matsangaisa. After his death in 1979, Colonel Alfredo Dhlakama became president and carried on the fight against Frelimo. Renamo rebels control the greater part of Mozambique and have brought the economy to a virtual standstill.

Renamo surrounds the cities of Maputo and Beira, and controls the highway to the South African border. It has bombed bridges and railways, cutting off landlocked countries, and has killed thousands of Frelimo soldiers and civilians.

Renamo gunmen have also killed Portuguese, East German and British citizens, and captured tons of weapons and supplies. They have warned foreigners and foreign companies to leave Mozambique.

After the 1984 Nkomati agreement, there was an attempt by South Africa and the United States to bring Renamo and Frelimo together in a joint government. The effort failed when Renamo said they "would not share power with a Marxist-Leninist government tied to Moscow".

In its programme, Renamo promise to hold general elections if it comes to power and set up a multi-party, presidential system like in France. They say they stand for private enterprise and a free market economy. Renamo promise to de-nationalize industries and hand them back to their former owners.

The fact that Renamo spokesmen act with impunity in Portugal caused problems in the past between the governments in Lisbon and Maputo. At one time, President Machel actually accused Portuguese government officials of actively supporting the rebel movement - an accusation which was vehemently denied by the Portuguese Government.

The movement received aid and training from South Africa and some Portuguese ex-colonials, but after the Nkomati agreement in March 1984, in which South Africa and Mozambique agreed to stop helping rebel movements in their country, Renamo claims to have all its bases within Mozambique and to have captured most of its arms from Frelimo or to have acquired them from Western European countries and the near East.

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Angola opposes visit

A senior Angolan diplomat said yesterday that a proposed visit to Britain this week by the Pretoria-backed guerrilla leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, would be a "slap in the face" for bilateral relations (Nicholas Beeston writes).

Dr Savimbi, the Unita leader, is currently in Strasbourg at the invitation of right-wing European parliamentarians and has announced plans to visit several European capitals this week.

Observers said this presaged a clash next Monday in Luxembourg between those states which favour radical measures to match those taken by the United States Congress on the one hand and Britain and West Germany on the other.

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WORLD SUMMARY

Afrikaner church opens to all

Cape Town (AFP) - The Dutch Reformed Church, dominant among South Africa's ruling Afrikaner minority, decided yesterday in a major policy switch to open its membership to all races.

However, the Church had decided on Monday against amalgamating with its sister reformed churches which serve other racial groups in the country.

It appeared likely that most non-whites would choose to remain members of the branches of the Church reserved for their racial groups, rather than join the Afrikaner branch. The two decisions were made at the four-yearly national Synod of the Church, which is known as the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk. It is the biggest of the three Afrikaner reformed churches and exerts powerful influence on government thinking and on that of the Dutch and French-Huguenot Afrikaners, who make up some 60 per cent of South Africa's white minority.

Iceland oil threat

Reykjavik (AP) - Iceland has threatened to suspend the accord under which it buys most of its oil from the Soviet Union because of a dispute over Icelandic herring, the Trade Minister, Mr Matthias Bjarnason, revealed.

Speaking on Icelandic state radio, Mr Bjarnason urged the Russians to rethink the herring dispute if they wanted bilateral trade to continue.

Peking thaw for Honecker

Peking (Reuter) - The East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker (left) arrived here to a warm welcome for a six-day state visit that is the most dramatic symbol yet of the thaw in Sino-East European relations.

Herr Honecker embraced the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, when he stepped off the special interling plane that brought him from North Korea.

"All the best to you," the smiling visitor said as he greeted two dozen competitors waving East German flags.

Nordic atom alert plan

Oslo - A regional contingency plan for monitoring and dealing with future Chernobyl-type nuclear accidents is to be drawn up by a working party of scientists and civil servants from the five Nordic countries, a meeting of Nordic Council environment ministers will announce today.

Massacre in market

Lima (AP) - Two Peruvian rebels, a man and a woman, posing as produce sellers, opened fire with submachine guns and killed two policemen guarding a Lima wholesaler's market, police reported. As one policeman fell mortally wounded he shot and killed the male rebel.

Soviet shells kill 30

Islamabad (AP) - Some 30 people were killed when Soviet artillery bombarded the village of Fizza in the Shomali region near the Afghan capital of Kabul, where guerrillas had destroyed nine tanks and other vehicles, sources said.

Timor students' plea

Jakarta (Reuter) - Four East Timorese students have asked the Dutch Embassy to help them leave Indonesia, but an embassy spokesman declined to say if they were seeking asylum inside the compound.

The spokesman said the four had applied for Portuguese passports but a spokesman said they preferred to keep the matter quiet while the Dutch Foreign Minister, Mr Hans van den Broek, was in Jakarta for a foreign ministers meeting between the European Community and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

Greece closes border to Tehran refugees

From Mario Modiano, Athens
Greece has increased army patrols along the Evros River, which marks the Greek-Turkish frontier, to prevent an influx of Iranians trying to seek refuge in western Europe.

A Greek spokesman yesterday accused Turkey of helping the refugees, who are now massing in eastern Thrace, to enter Greece illegally by swimming across the river.

The spokesman said the Iranians, estimated at between 2,000 and 3,000, were stranded in Turkey after West Germany imposed visa restrictions on foreigners crossing from East to West Berlin seeking asylum.

Unions hit transport, schools and power

Patchy response to French public sector strike call

From Diana Geddes, Paris
The Fédération d'Education Nationale (FEN), the largest teachers' union, claimed that more than 80 per cent of its members had gone on strike. In Paris, some 60 per cent of secondary school teachers and 42 per cent of primary school teachers were reported not to have turned up for work.

In the postal and telecommunications service, the strike call was followed by about 40 per cent of workers. The fully automatic telephone service was not affected, but there were virtually no postal deliveries and many post offices remained closed.

More than five million public sector workers were called out on a 24-hour strike by the three main trade union federations - the CGT, CFDT and Force Ouvrière - together with the FEN, in protest against planned cuts of 19,000 civil service jobs and a proposed zero increase in pay next year.

While the unions managed to agree on the same day for their action, their rare demonstration of solidarity broke down when it came to the demonstrations which were held separately in Paris, though some joint marches were staged in the provinces.

As usual, it was the Communist-led CGT which succeeded in getting the biggest turnout, with an estimated 20,000 demonstrators in Paris (100,000 according to the union), a further 15,000 in Marseilles and around 6,000 in Lyons.

It was the biggest strike faced by the right-wing Government since it came to power seven months ago. The number of strikes has been falling steadily in France for more than a decade. Last year, a post-war record was achieved with only 885,000 working days lost through strikes, compared with 1.4 million in 1976.

Only 15-20 per cent of French workers now belong to a union, compared with 40 per cent in Britain.

Sanctions clash feared

Strasbourg - With less than a week to go before EEC foreign ministers meet to consider whether to take further sanctions against South Africa, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, yesterday told the European Parliament that sanctions were "not an end in themselves" and were unlikely to lead directly to the end of apartheid (Richard Owen writes).

Observers said this presaged a clash next Monday in Luxembourg between those states which favour radical measures to match those taken by the United States Congress on the one hand and Britain and West Germany on the other.

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Tories in prairie poll win

From John Best, Ottawa
The voters of Saskatchewan, the heart of the Canadian prairies, have returned the provincial Conservative Government to office, but with a greatly reduced majority.

The Tories, under their youthful leader and Premier, Mr Grant Devine, took 38 seats in the 64-seat legislature in Monday's election. The left-wing New Democratic Party (NDP) won 26.

The Liberals took one seat: a triumph of sorts since they have been without any since 1978.

It was the second successive firm Mr Devine, a 42-year-old farm economist, has led the Tories to victory over the NDP, who have dominated Saskatchewan politics for most of the past 40 years.

They won Monday's election despite depressed world prices for many of the products on which the province's economy is dependent.

With Monday's defeat, the days of Mr Allan Blakeney, the NDP leader, are believed to be numbered. Most political observers expect the former premier to step down in about two more years.

NZ defence chiefs tussle with Lange

From Richard Long, Wellington
The New Zealand Ministry of Defence has shown itself to be totally at loggerheads with Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister, over the effect of a breakdown in defence exchange schemes with Britain.

In evidence to the Parliamentary select committee on foreign affairs and defence, the Ministry says that such a breakdown would seriously compromise the ability of the armed forces to maintain levels of professionalism.

Mr Lange said this week that the exchange schemes could end, but that that would not be the end of the world. The hard line by the British Government would be the cause of any breakdown, he said, rather than his Labour Government's anti-nuclear legislation.

Fifty New Zealand servicemen will train with British forces this year under the exchange schemes. They are regarded as invaluable because of the cancellation of American exchanges and exercises in the wake of New Zealand's ban on visits by nuclear-armed or powered ships.

Defence specialists feel that the exchanges are under threat because of the anti-nuclear legislation, which makes it an offence for a New Zealand serviceman to assist an officer who may be in command of a nuclear weapon.

Swedish action sparks crisis

From Christopher Mossey, Stockholm
The industrial action hit the young, the old and the weakest in society, something unacceptable to a nation that prides itself on looking after all its citizens.

Meanwhile, with hospitals forced to shut down wards as nurses walked out, there was the embarrassing spectacle of elderly patients being hustled by bus to other regions. Operations were cancelled and many handicapped people were virtually trapped in their homes without care.

The action demonstrated the weakness of a society which has largely eradicated private and charity care in favour of state and municipal welfare.

It also threw once more into question the wisdom of the so-called "Swedish Model", the highly-centralized wage bargaining structure upon which postwar prosperity has been built, but which allows for massive industrial action when negotiations fail.

Britons call off Everest climb but vow to return

From Ronald Faux, Everest base camp
Defeated by storms and avalanche, the British expedition to Mount Everest has abandoned its attempt on the unclimbed North-East Ridge of the mountain. But the team said it intends to try again in the Spring.

The Chinese Mountaineering Association, which controls climbing permits on the Tibetan side of Everest, has confirmed that the ridge is free in the pre-monsoon months next year. This period, between April and June, is thought to offer the best conditions for an attempt.

The 18 climbers in the Seligmann Harris Mount Everest 1986 Expedition had camped for a week or more of calm weather before the high winds of the Himalayan winter set in, but four fierce storms and dangerous snow repeatedly drove them from the ridge. They decided on Sunday to abandon the attempt.

Brummie Stokes, the expedition leader and a former soldier in the SAS Regiment, said that the team would return to try to conquer the ridge, the most significant unclimbed route up the world's highest mountain. Next year's team would be smaller, he said, but would include high-altitude Sherpas from Nepal.

"There is no doubt that too many of the climbers simply burned themselves out carrying loads on the lower part of the ridge," he said. "No one could have tried harder, but the effort of getting scores of heavy loads up to the high camps, then the pressure from the terrible weather, made it impossible."

Much the same reasons were probably blamed for the failure of the first eight expeditions to Everest before it was climbed, from the Nepalese side, in 1953. The American expedition now seeking evidence of what happened to Mallory and Irvine, the British climbers who disappeared on the North Ridge in 1924, has been equally frustrated by the conditions, and hit by its own tragedy. A Sherpa descending from the North Col was killed by an avalanche on October 17.

The accident happened at the spot where seven Sherpas died in an avalanche during the second British expedition to Everest in 1922, in which Mallory took part.

Like the British climbers on the neighbouring ridge, the Americans have been unable to establish a high camp from which to launch a summit bid or a high-altitude search for evidence.

For the present the truth about what happened to Mallory and Irvine, if it is there to be found, remains guarded by deep snow and the freezing jetstream winds that have begun to sweep the high reaches of the mountain.

A bold bid to cross the Pinnacles, the stretch of ice-covered rock that form the difficult crux of the North-East Ridge, was made by Harry Taylor, a former soldier with the SAS Regiment, and Trevor Pilling, a climber from Stockport, Cheshire. Hoping that the weather would improve on October 16 and the longed-for "window" would materialise, they pushed on up the ridge carrying 50 lb loads and set up Camp 3 at a high point of 8,000 metres, close to the first steep slope of the Pinnacles.

Violent winds hammered the ridge as the pair dug a snow hole to sleep in. Next day the wind grew to hurricane strength, creating a chill factor of -70 degrees. Progress across the Pinnacles was impossible even though Pilling estimated that technically the climb would have been feasible. They turned back and struggled to safety, forced on to all fours by the wind.

Taylor jettisoned his oxygen set when it froze up. "The weight of the cylinders consumed more energy than the oxygen was giving me," he said. "It had to go."

He gasped his way to the safety ropes leading down "Bill's Buttress" towards the lower altitude of the glacier, arriving there exhausted. Pilling, with a functioning oxygen set, reached the same point with relative ease.

Soon after the climbers reached safety the expedition began dismantling the high camps that have been their base for more than two months during their repeated attempts on the ridge.

Although the summit was not reached and the critical section of the Pinnacles was not crossed, this has nevertheless been successful as a mountaineering endeavour. It brought together climbers with military and civilian backgrounds and gave an insight to the magnitude of the great North-East Ridge that will be invaluable next Spring.

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Mr Carlsson under pressure to curb right to strike

# Soviet soldiers feel the chill as Hungarian uprising day draws near

From Richard Bassett, Budapest

As Afghanistan has proved, on the outskirts of the Soviet empire a Russian soldier's lot is far from being a happy one. In Hungary, where there is no risk of stopping a sniper's bullet, garrison life nonetheless imposes strains.

In the weeks before the 30th anniversary of the Hungarian uprising, tension has increased between Soviet troops and the local people.

This has been highlighted dramatically by an incident in a village inn near Vezsprem, in the west of the country. The innkeeper refused an inebriated Russian officer a drink. Furious, the Russian left, promising he would be back for his drink later with what he ominously styled "reinforcements".

Two hours later, those in the inn heard a whining of motors followed by an ear-splitting crash as a Soviet tank smashed into the wall of the inn. The customers fled, but the innkeeper was not so lucky. His body was later found, crushed by the tank.

The incident last month drew a strong protest from the

Hungarian authorities, though predictably it has not been alluded to in the official press. Informed circles believe, however, that the Russian officer involved, who also apparently drove the tank, has been disciplined.

The area around Vezsprem is the main exercise ground of the Warsaw Pact in central Europe, and the headquarters of the four divisions of Soviet troops stationed in Hungary.

For the local people, it is referred to as Russia's part of Hungary: mile after mile of missile silos, barracks and communications complexes.

As living standards have increased in Hungary, the difference between Hungarian and Soviet lifestyles has been brought painfully home to these Russian troops.

"Hungary is the first colony in the history of imperialism in which those colonized are more civilized and advanced than the colonizing power," Hungarian *samizdat* publications are fond of pointing out.

The craving for Hungarian luxuries is apparently so developed among Soviet

# US pilot faces 30 years in jail

Managua (Reuters) — An American pilot on trial before a Nicaraguan tribunal yesterday faced the prospect of a possible 30-year jail sentence after being accused of involvement in efforts to topple the Sandinista Government.

Mr Eugene Hasenfus, aged 45, was charged on Monday night with "terrorism" at the start of his trial by a revolutionary "people's court". The Managua Justice Minister, Señor Rodrigo Reyes, said he would demand the maximum penalty.

Mr Hasenfus was captured on October 6 in a Nicaraguan jungle a day after parachuting from a plane shot down by a Sandinista missile while allegedly delivering supplies to US-backed right-wing Contras.

"He (Hasenfus) is an extremely dangerous element," a document presented by Señor Reyes said. It was read to the crowded court first in Spanish and then in English.

"Eugene Hasenfus, in addition to attempting to disrupt public security, has attempted to disrupt public order by participating with a clearly defined task as a crew member of an aircraft that transported arms... destined to take more lives in our country," the document, read by the president of the court, Señor Reynaldo Monterrey, said.

"We are seeking the maximum penalty."

Under Nicaraguan law, this means 30 years in jail. There is no death penalty.

Mr Hasenfus appeared calm as he sat before the court panel, watched by his wife,



Mr Eugene Hasenfus, the US pilot, listening to Managua's charges as his wife, Sally Jean (left), fights back her tears.

Sally Jean, and brother, Bill. The 27-page document, which took more than an hour to read, dedicated as much space to attacking US policy as it did to charging Mr Hasenfus. It plotted the history of what it described as illegal US efforts to topple the Nicaraguan Government.

It claimed that Mr Hasenfus had been involved in efforts "to hand over the nation to foreign domination."

# The quiet Islamic revolution Muslim self-help usurps Cairo government's role

From Robert Fisk, Cairo

Three-year-old Sara Mansour Anwar sat bolt upright on the edge of her chair in front of the entire class.

"Bismillah al-rahman al-rahim," she screamed in a childish monotone, her tiny pigtails bobbing up and down.

"In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful, the Lord of Creation, the Compassionate, the Merciful, King of Judgement Day; You alone we worship, and to You alone we pray for help."

Sara's headmistress, Mrs Enayat Fattah, beamed her approval at the small boys and girls in their neat pink uniforms slowly joined in the prayer, their voices rising above the roar and hooting of the Cairo traffic outside. It seemed an unlikely setting for an Islamic revolution.

But that is what is happening in Mrs Enayat's school, as it is in dozens of other privately-funded Islamic colleges in Cairo, in the upper Egyptian city of Asyut and other towns in the Nile Valley.

Tens of thousands of pious Sunni Muslims in Egypt, far from rising up against the Government, as other Arab states have privately predicted, are turning to a softer form of political transition, putting their own money into Islamic "co-operatives" to fund nursery schools, colleges, pharmacies, medical centres and even Islamic take-away food shops.

The school that has sprung up around the al-Pasha Mosque in the Manshiya suburb of Cairo has, in effect, taken over the government's role in education. The Islamic medical centre has taken the place of a government clinic.

In Mrs Enayat's office, the portrait of President Mubarak, virtually obligatory in every school and shop in Egypt, cannot be found. The walls are decorated instead with Quranic scripts.

The Islamic fundamentalists in Egypt look upon her institution with approval. But the Egyptian Government could hardly complain of the cosy little school nestling round the dome of the mosque, with its smart, well-behaved children.

The plump and smiling housewives who teach them are hardly the stuff of revolution. And incredibly, the Egyptian Ministry of Social Affairs even treats them as a charity, giving the school £2,300 (about £1,200) as an annual grant.

Mrs Enayat almost leapt up the high stone stairway of her school to show off her classes with all the delight of a mother hen, room after brown-papered room of pink-clothed children, the girls in pigtails, the boys with short-cropped hair, all obediently waiting to

## Financial boom

The pharmacy sells its medicines at street prices and, like the clinic, is open to Christians as well as Muslims. The 50 teachers and supervisors at the school earn a maximum of only £2150 (about £78) a month.

All of which sounds efficient, uncontroversial, a positive financial boom to a country whose economy is collapsing in ruins.

The problem for the Government, however — and for Mr Mubarak — is that the college at the al-Pasha Mosque, with its 500 children, has been multiplied dozens of times all over Egypt.

Muslims have turned to Islam rather than to the Government, and to the genuine sense of generosity and self-help that Islam can inspire in their lives.

Their loyalty is thus going ever more fervently towards the mosque rather than to the perspiring technocrats who daily appear on television to announce the belt-tightening which their constituents will have to endure.

And if Sara and her small schoolfriends in their plaid-like uniforms really do go on looking to God alone for help, there will assuredly come a time when the Government will find it has no adherents left.

## Riots hit Asyut over veil order

From Our Own Correspondent Cairo

The upper Egyptian city of Asyut has again been the scene of rioting between police and thousands of Islamic fundamentalist students demanding the release of more than 100 of their colleagues imprisoned earlier this year.

Riot police baton-charged the demonstrators when they emerged from a mosque on Monday night after listening to a speech by Sheikh Muhammad al-Mahallawy, one of the more radical religious leaders who has already been imprisoned for allegedly inciting anti-Government riots.

The sheikh yesterday morning boarded a train at Asyut station but whether he left the city on police instructions was not clear.

Shops and offices which had been closed on the orders of the Governor's office reopened, but the authorities can be under no doubt that Asyut remains as volatile a centre of Islamic fervour as it has been since the assassination of President Sadat.

Witnesses said that at least 5,000 students were involved in the disturbances. They had run from the mosque shouting for the freedom of their detained friends when the police, who had been outside the building, suddenly began beating them.

At least 95 of the imprisoned students were arrested after a street riot last month when they protested at the refusal of the police to allow 15 female students through the gates of Asyut University wearing veils.

The police had insisted that the women remove their head coverings "for identification". Such rules have been interpreted by many Muslims as part of a campaign to eradicate Islamic fundamentalism in the colleges, already controlled by extreme student religious groups.

## Filipinos protest over land

Manila (Reuters) — A peasants' organization said today that President Aquino of the Philippines should implement a land reform programme beginning with her family's sugar plantation, Hacienda Luisita.

Mr Jaime Tadeo, national chairman of the Peasant Movement of the Philippines, said it asked Mrs Aquino four months ago to give part of her land to peasants.

"We should implement land reform beginning with Hacienda Luisita," he said. Twenty per cent of the President's 15,000-acre plantation should be given to farm workers, he added.

Mrs Aquino said last week that 22,000 acres of sugar lands forfeited to the Government on the island of Negros would be sold to rural workers at cheap prices.

In December, two months before Mrs Aquino deposed President Marcos, a court ordered the seizure of Hacienda Luisita, in the northern Tarlac province, for alleged failure to comply with land reform rules.

Mrs Aquino said then that Mr Marcos was harassing her politically and that the law did not apply to sugar plantations, only rice and corn lands.

Mr Tadeo made his statement hours before some 10,000 peasants demonstrated outside the presidential palace to dramatize their demand for reform.

The marchers were joined by leftist groups, including the Partido ng Bayan (People's Party) described as a front organization of communist insurgents, who have been waging a 17-year rural war.

The groups expressed disappointment after soldiers prevented them from entering the palace grounds. Mr Tadeo told the marchers: "We did not come here to beg but to fight for our rights. So let us go back to the countryside where we are strong."

# Ershad date for end of martial law

From Ahmed Fazi Dhaka President Ershad of Bangladesh will lift martial law and restore the country's constitution on November 12, according to government aides.

The end of martial law after four-and-a-half years will follow the passing of an indemnity Bill approving the military regime's past rule.

The former General Ershad, who retired as army chief in August to run in last week's election, is summoning Parliament on November 9 to present the Bill.

Meanwhile, opposition parties who boycotted the polls have planned to make tomorrow, when President Ershad will formally be sworn into office, a day of protest.

Under Nicaraguan law, this means 30 years in jail. There is no death penalty.

Mr Hasenfus appeared calm as he sat before the court panel, watched by his wife,

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THE ARTS

Ladbroke's quote The Old Devils by Kingsley Amis as 2-1 favourite to win this year's Booker Prize, to be decided tonight. In this extract from his forthcoming book of essays Malcolm Bradbury compares two of the greatest British humorists of the century

Waugh versus Amis

The French have always had a fondness for writers who profess themselves intellectuals, whether they are or not. On the other hand, being different, the British prefer their writers not to be, however philosophical or high-minded they may happen to be in private life. This helps explain something of the difference between most British and most continental fiction: the British have rarely produced the philosophical novel, the serious political novel or the novel of aesthetic exactitude. What they have produced is the writer of many meditations, the writer who is partly to the commonplace and ordinary stuff of life, the realist, the observer, the humorist.

Indeed one of the things that has mediated social, political and intellectual life in Britain is its capacity for manifest humour. And this may be why one of the great triumphs and major pleasures of the British fictional tradition is the comic novel: we have a great comic line in the novel, and it still goes on. But even in this matter the British taste has been generally for the untheoretical. Two lineages started in the early days of fiction, one with Henry Fielding, that voice of good-humoured benevolence and the maker of one of our great comic heroes, Tom Jones; the other with Laurence Sterne, who invented and abstracted the anti-novel almost before the novel form had begun, and so became one of the great heroes of experimental modernism, as well as the discoverer of comedy as a form of response to pain and mortality.

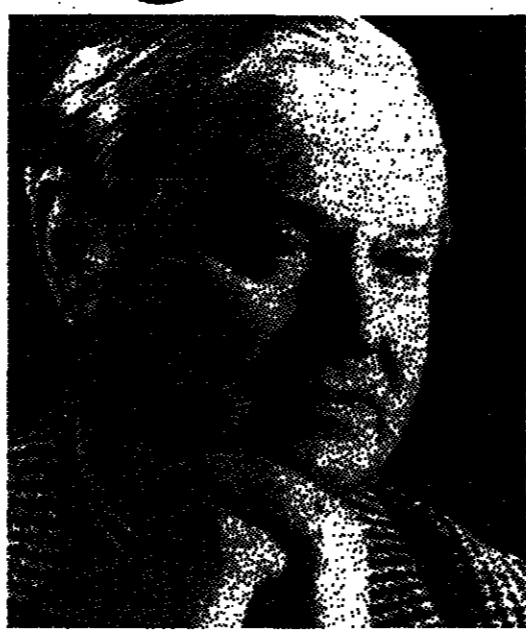
In general it has been the lineage of Fielding that has won out. Jane Austen, commensal as well as sharply ironic, familiarizes us to the difficult world of social manners. Dickens was a man of strong and exacting social ideas, but a great writer of the familiar and the popular. Joyce is, in Ulysses, a most remarkable comic novelist, the supreme parodist of text; but Evelyn Waugh, fiercely and splendidly prejudiced, his compassion nil, is surely the best 20th-century British comic novelist to date. His fiction is darker and sharper than it often seems, but like much modern comic writing it frankly refuses many of our most serious notions of literature, and is more agnostic ideas than for them.

Indeed the ideologically or philosophically obsessed have usually seemed, in British comic fiction, the enemies of reality and the true comic instinct — Thackeray and Square in Tom Jones, the dreaming Transcendentalists in Martin Chuzzlewit, and so on to Professor Welch and his Bloomsbury artistic coterie in

Kingsley Amis's Lucky Jim, a novel that undoubtedly owed as much of its success to maintaining the 18th-century fictional tradition as it did to providing a radical view of its own time, the 1950s. This is not the only place where Amis does homage to Fielding, and in British fiction he has been far from alone. Tom Jones, said Gibbon, "may be considered the history of human nature", and the comic novel of human nature has long been found the true British way of doing fictional things.

This in turn may explain how we treat our writers, which is not quite as intellectuals but as outrageous observers of our institutions, mores and political practices. Waugh himself is one of the great modern examples — a writer of the very highest distinction and originality, whose irascible disguises served to hide him from readers, strangers and much of the argument of the world, who was able to sustain at the highest level of arrogance a virtually unattainable intellectual and social position, and in general to claim as the very centre of writing the proprietorial, seigneurial rights of the English eccentric, whom it would be quite inappropriate to gaisny or interrupt.

As it happens, and as it often happens, Waugh possessed the highest intellectual qualities — a strong sense of history, which he had manoeuvred into a theory of a decline and fall that had started with the end of Catholic dominance in Britain and was now quite irredeemable; a high and unusual aesthetic taste, which could be presented as very proper in a gentleman; a great studiousness which he chose to call "a little learning", and presumably hence a dangerous thing, though less dangerous than a lot of it; and above all a compelling sense of style which could appear at once an art-form and a normal possession of a man of rank, but never, never as a Modernist novelty. When the Second World War ended, Waugh's style, shaken by



Evelyn Waugh "the one true Conservative"



Kingsley Amis "a sense of social process"

'Amis mocked the past and its styles... Waugh gained sustenance from it'

the experiences of wartime and the coming of the welfare-state world that followed, seemed half-spent. His later fiction reflects a good deal on this break, and the problem of writing the tale of the new age of dishonour. The new generation of the 1950s gradually emerged, their air apparently puritanical and socially of the lower middle class, their tweedy sports jackets hanging badly off their shoulders, their mildly left-of-centre social principles everywhere being asserted. It was not, it seemed to Waugh, a climate for his kind of writing, and he raged against it. As for the most comically assured of the new writers, Kingsley Amis, whose impact on the 1950s came to rival that of Waugh on the 1920s, he seemed in almost every respect Waugh's antithesis. Waugh had portrayed British society in a state of irremediable historical decadence, a world of social, political and sexual teach-

ery in which a few florid inheritors from the past hinted at the better, more stable and fixed world that was falling in, like the roofs of some of our best country houses, on top of us; Amis mocked the past and its styles and manners, and spoke straight from the plain and ordinary present. Waugh had found in the Catholic English past an older history to which he could convert and from which he could gain some sustenance; Amis attacked all that was nostalgic and medievalizing in the British character, every notion of a Merrie England, and found his sustenance in the commonplace, the provincial, the bottle of beer and the blonde. Waugh and Amis therefore looked like literary opposites, and the distinction applied equally in political matters. Waugh was not simply a writer of conservative instincts; he offered himself as the one true conservative. Amis, on the other hand, appeared part of

the New Left that was emerging in postwar Britain, in an era when there was a new appeal for literary commitment. At St John's College, Oxford, in 1941 he had indeed been an undergraduate communist ("the only party I have ever joined"), of course at a time when Britain and Soviet Russia were allies. During the 1950s he was announcing himself a probable lifetime Labour voter, and explored his Fabian allegiances in a pamphlet called Socialism and the Intellectuals (1957), a title that was hardly likely to go down well at Combe Florey. Amis was also not just a striking novelist and a fine young poet writing in the way of the "Movement", but also an academic, teaching English at a British "redbrick", Swansea, and writing fine and rather severe critical essays on which the impact of Leavis and the spirit of new critical intensity was very apparent. Thereafter, forsaking the

"redbrick" world about which he had written, he went to a fellowship at Peterhouse, Cambridge, with every prospect of a career that united the academic and the literary, the critical and the creative functions.

None of this was in the Waugh spirit, except as stuff for the making of satirical fiction. But in the event a sharp break came. Cambridge did not suit, whether because of its often backbiting attitude towards those with literary ambitions, or because criticism itself was in any case being pushed heavily towards more theoretical preoccupations is not quite clear. It was now that Amis entered on the life of the full-time writer.

Lucky Jim and the books that immediately followed were enormously successful, and caught the temper of the times, coupling brilliant comic effects with a sharp sense of social process and even social protest. Amis's essays were forceful and accessible pieces of literary criticism, and he was clearly a central figure of the "Movement" mood. But the manner was shifting, along with the political sympathies and the mode of social exploration in his work. Amis might well protest that it was the world that was changing, and he remained much the same, but the fiction seems to record a different story. At any rate Amis's politics moved towards the right, and today he defines himself as a non-wet and so presumably Thatcherite Tory "with a few liberal bits", on hanging, homosexuality, abortion. But the "liberal bits" are only occasionally noticeable, and in the history of post-Orwellian liberalism Amis did not continue as a striking example of the cause.

The writer who began to write in the spirit of a humanist common sense in a postwar time (you might say common sense was his world view) what post-Heideggerian Existentialism was to Jean-Paul Sartre's) took on rage and spleen, sometimes invoked against mortality and the human condition itself, as in the very good Ending Up (1974), one of his deepest novels, and sometimes in a latter-day social ire arrayed against the entire modernity of the

modern world. The writer who wrote compassionately in Take a Girl Like You (1960) of the change in sexual and emotional manners became in late books like Jake's Thing a notable misogynist in the age of feminism, and the critic who had admired the radical impact of American fiction in the 1950s began to rage against the worthlessness of American writing.

Indeed in many ways Amis seemed slowly to have inherited the role of the Comic Bad Man of English Letters which Waugh had so powerfully sustained a generation earlier. Now the similarities began to look very evident. Both of them had begun as spectacular Young Turks, and turned into Angry Old Men.

Both had captured, in their manners, moral upsets, cultural dislocations and social instabilities generated by a recent war. Both of them were strictly anti-romantic writers who carried somewhere in their work a secret but gradually more explicit nostalgia. Both revolted against the extremities of experimentalism and the impact and significance of the Modern movement. Both darkened deeply with the years, taking on a pervasive awareness both of the absurdity of the social world and the hideous weight of mortality into which human life is born, so that their comedy is touched with pain. And both — this can certainly be said of Waugh, and I think we will say it of Amis — turned, with their virtues and their faults, into major writers whose mixture of basic craft, remarkable social perception, comic vision and gift for rage and outrage managed to construct a lifetime of writing of extraordinary dimensions and decided influence.

It has been said that few contemporary comic writers can get free of the intonations of Amis, and the tradition of modern comic fiction in Britain has an inescapable source in Waugh, who will, I think, be seen as one of the great black humorists of the century. Both suggest that the comic is both an extraordinary stylistic capacity and a form of human pain, and both indicate what I think is a very British way of dealing with it which may have striking limitations and very peculiar strengths. And both are difficult to write about as a result, provoking both annoyance and respect, a sense of a talent often imperfect yet of an extraordinary force.

Extracted from the title essay of Malcolm Bradbury's new collection No. Not Bloomsbury, to be published next spring by André Deutsch.

Making our mark

TELEVISION

Having long passed up the title of Europe's premier industrial producer, Britain now leads the pack as its major industrial polluter. Dead lakes in Sweden, balding mountains in the Black Forest: you can see why they are so cross with us.

Last night's Viewpoint 86: The Acid Test (Central) presented a wraparound report on the problem from Germany, Holland, Scandinavia and Scotland. Heavy metals clog the gills of infant fish, compromise the feeds of infant humans and weaken the shells of unhatched birds. Everything, it seems, has turned acid: acid snow, acid fumes, acid episodes, even an acid bomb which is, at least figuratively, ticking away beneath our feet.

This is beyond doubt a very bad thing, but it does not come as a staggering shock to learn that the emission from power stations (which never looked all that healthy to begin with) is in fact very unhealthy. The

programme suffered from having been pre-empted by a dozen colour-supplement features of the before-and-after variety, and the most striking idea it conveyed, albeit unwittingly, was that ecologists forswear shaving in mute solidarity with all growing things.

The political will which Britain lacks in controlling acid rain was abundantly evident in the career of Red Ellen (BBC2). Ellen Wilkinson MP, a small Mancunian redhead with a rather quacking voice, is most famous for having led the Jarrow March of 1936. Attempting to flesh out this picture with instances of her more substantial achievements, Bel Mooney interviewed those who knew and worked with her. "So Ellen could be quite tough, then?" prompted Miss Mooney in the over-missed tones of an oral examiner. Goodness, yes. And when she remarked, parenthetically, to her subject's sometime private secretary, "I didn't know her, as you did", one could scarcely hear the comma.

Martin Cropper

All too indulgent

CONCERTS

LSO/Menuhin Barbican

Mutter and Menuhin, a neat English package of Vaughan Williams, Delius and Elgar, and blockbusting Bruch: it was exciting casting, exciting box-office, and there, almost, the excitement ended.

The qualification applies, surprisingly enough, to the Vaughan Williams. The Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis may only have been a preliminary to the evening's main attractions but, blurred entries and all, I found Yehudi Menuhin's playing of the orchestra with baton and eye-contact as mesmerizing an exercise in shifting string acoustics as the work itself. By the time Anne-Sophie Mutter appeared for Bruch's First Violin Concerto, her orchestral colleagues were in excellent shape. So much so, indeed, that Sir Yehudi, as conductor, was tempted to

indulge them with rather too free a hand. With a performance as lush, robust and generally unsearching as Miss Mutter's, they needed a tighter rein to prevent sagging whenever the pace relaxed.

Menuhin's reluctance to activate the inner nerves of the orchestra made Elgar's Enigma rather less than enigmatic. It was certainly refreshing to hear such affably warm, long paragraphing, but one longed for more phrases, more words even. It was satisfying to hear such fulsome antiphony in the strings; but interesting how they seemed to need the stimulus of woodwind leads to persuade them to imaginative detail.

The wind had earlier enjoyed themselves in the balmy Indian summer of Delius's Paradise Garden. Anthony Camden's oboe and Christine Penndill's cor Anglais provided definition just where it was needed. They, and the entire percussion section in the Elgar, were in many ways the real celebrities of the evening.

Hilary Finch

THEATRE

Under Milk Wood Greenwich

Gossamer Beynon, Organ Morgan, No-Good Boyo, PC Attila Rees... the names are still the best of it. And how apt, in their noddingly smutty way, are the roles to which Dylan Thomas consigned his pivotal characters: the unstopably fecked Polly Garter who scrubs for a living, and the blind old Captain Tom Cat whose solace is to sit by his open window and listen to the yawning world in which he plays no part.

Thomas's dreamy evocation of Llareggub is a child's-eye-view of provincial grubbiness, wherein sexual repression alternates with adultery and the two find common ground in an obsession with bodily functions. This sense of a breathing fossil is admirably served in the play's original medium of radio, where the voices dredge the listener in a slurry of beguiling, if overwrought, imagery; on stage, its very stasis becomes the focal point of the exercise.

Belinda Ackerman's set supplies a solid foundation of platforms and jagged fawn walls, like the ruins of a giant's sand-castle, in front of a curve of blue colorama faintly daubed with mountains. It is, quintessentially, a pantomime set, and one looks in vain for the Demon King. One searches also for evidence that Anthony Cornish's production justifies Kenneth Tynan's debatable stricture (aimed at the argument against staging this work) that "all words

ROCK

ZZ Top Wembley Arena

When they last toured Britain in 1983, ZZ Top were building a groundswell of popular support that came to fruition the following year when the band became in absentia fully fledged video stars. Word of their new show has preceded the current visit to such an extent that it has become tempting to take much of what they offer for granted.

Certainly, the audience on Monday seemed to accept with nonchalance the prospect of three ageing bluesmen from Texas playing an extraordinary combination of Seventies boogie and Eighties hits, enhanced by a tour de force of high-tech lighting and laser effects. The long beards, matching guitars and synchronized dances are no longer a novelty but have become an institution, so where were the car, the girls, the magic of the videos?

The trio met the daunting task of living up to such unrealistic expectations with

THEATRE

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their customary savoir-faire. Billy Gibbons and Dusty Hill wandered languidly forward in unison to begin "Got Me Under Pressure" while a huge green sphinx head shot out red and green pencils of laser light. Frank Beard sat stolidly at his kit, his headphones tuned in to click-tracks to guide the triggering of backing-tape sequences which augmented novel songs like "Legs" and "Velcro Fly". The stage was set to resemble a giant fascimile of a hot-rod dashboard, which was later transformed into a space-ship console, following a disappearing trick by Hill and Beard that was not lit to best effect.

Whether the hoopla was as good as promised or not, they still played with superlative wit and grace. That Gibbons could, at the end of a 10-month tour, still pull out the kind of heart-stopping solo that adorned "Rough Boy" suggests the kind of staying power that will ensure their future irrespective of most commercial and critical vagaries.

David Sinclair

Tris Hombers: The Story of ZZ Top by David Sinclair is published by Virgin Books at £4.99.

DIANA RIGG in WILDFIRE A NEW PLAY by N. RICHARD NASH Directed by PETER WOOD PREVIEWS FROM 11 NOVEMBER OPENS 18 NOVEMBER PHOENIX THEATRE CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON WC2

Carter Larsen Elizabeth Hall Calling his programme "Romantic Rarities" might have implied those barnstorming works of the 19th century repertory so often the stock-in-trade of keyboard virtuosi, but the American-born Carter Larsen preferred the obverse in his solo programme on Monday. Dividing it between Liszt and Saint-Saens, he let the latter's false nonchalant pretty much characterize the assortment of musical sugared almonds displayed for our delight.

FEAR COCTEAU'S THE INFERNAL MACHINE The Cast: Paul Brightwell, Jim Carter, Neil Cunningham, Robert Eddison, Verpnica Smart, Maggie Smith, Trevor Thomas, Lambert Wilson. Directed & Translated by: Simon Callow. Designer: Bruno Santini

CHRISTIE'S GENEVA Important Autumn Sales At the Hotel Richemond, Geneva 8-13 November 1986 Art Deco diamond, pearl and coral pendant by Cartier Sold in Geneva on 15 May 1986 for Sfr 154,000.

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مكتبة الأصيل

SPECTRUM 1

Off into space, economy class

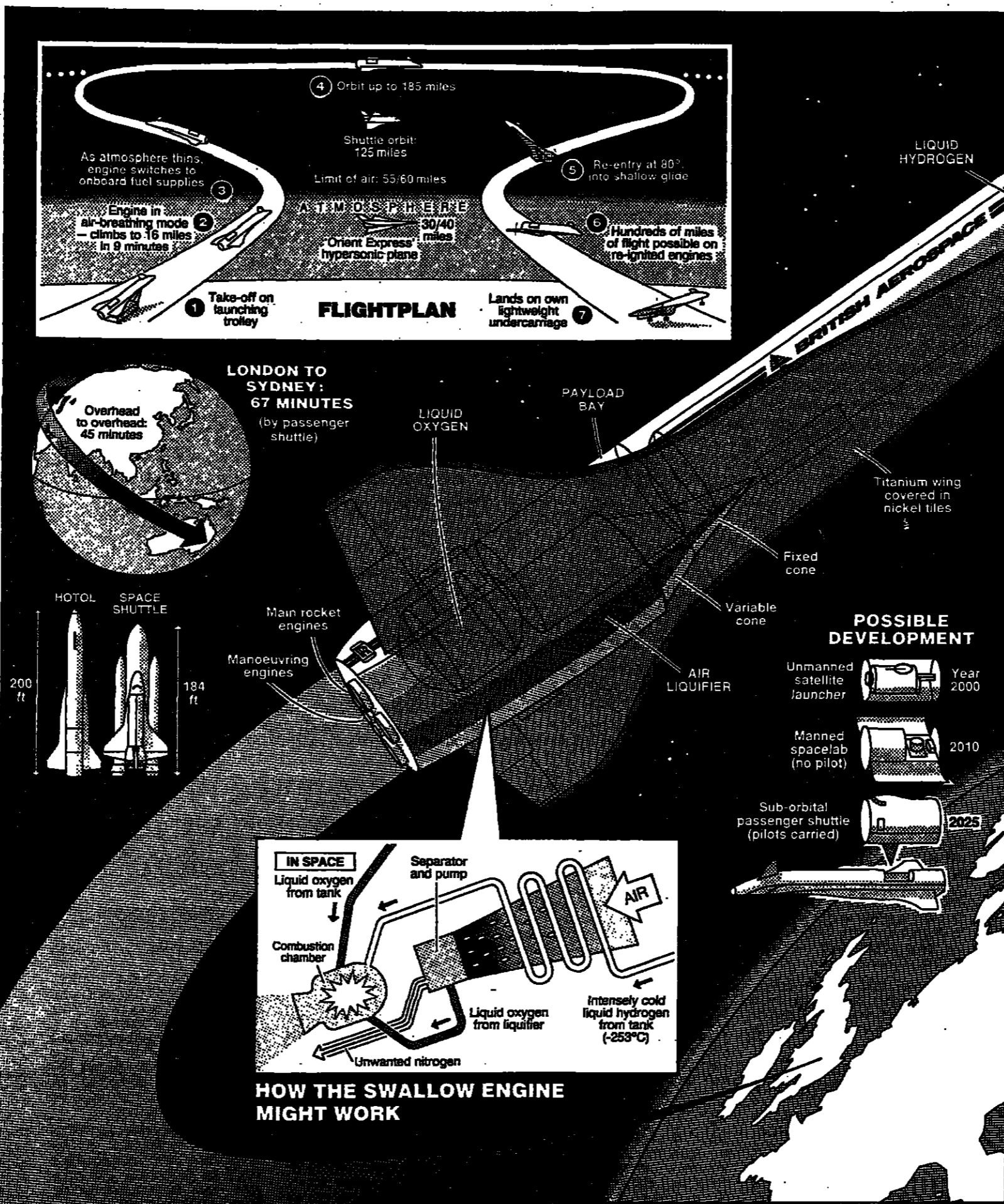
Passenger flights from London to Sydney in just over an hour? It seemed impossible until a breakthrough in rocket technology breathed fresh life into a British project called HOTOL.

It may look like a flying cucumber, but its designers claim that their re-usable craft, powered by a revolutionary rocket engine, will be able to launch satellites seven times more cheaply than the US space shuttle...

The success of the project also depends on further large injections of cash. About £4 billion will be needed and that could never be funded by Britain alone.

The ambitious HOTOL scheme was born in 1962, when BAE - Europe's principal satellite manufacturer - recognised the need for a new generation satellite launch vehicle...

British Aerospace examined 35 designs before settling on HOTOL as its desired unmanned, reusable space vehicle.



BRITAIN'S MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

- 1943: Flying-wing bomber proposed by Barnes Wallis but studies halted. (The US built two flying wings in the 1950s. US Stealth bomber to fly next year, will be first operational flying-wing.)
1948: Swing-wing aircraft proposed by Barnes Wallis but studies halted. (The US flew the first swing-wing aircraft, the F-111, in 1964.)
1960: Blue Streak, Britain's own medium-range ballistic missile, cancelled.
1962: Fully reusable space shuttle design, Mustard, proposed but not developed. (Mustard superior to US space shuttle that flew 18 years later.)
1965: The TSR-2, a Delta-winged supersonic aircraft, cancelled, leaving the Concorde project to develop Olympus engine alone.
1970: Britain withdraws from the Europa launcher project.
1974: Britain declines to join the Ariane launcher project as a major partner. France goes it alone. (Ariane successful with full launch order books.)
1985: British Aerospace propose HOTOL, a revolutionary satellite launcher. (Will HOTOL ever leave the drawing board and slice into space?)
1977: Britain declines to join Airbus Industrie (AI)



Hot stuff: artist's impression of Mustard, Britain's proposed shuttle. It never took off project as a major partner. France goes it alone. (AI now have almost as many airline orders as US giants Boeing and McDonnell-Douglas.)

HOTOL will have carbon fibre wing edges and a main heat shield of nickel plates arranged like a shingle roof. After re-entry, HOTOL's air-breathing engine is designed to re-ignite and allow the plane to fly long distances before landing on a light-weight undercarriage.

The aerodynamics are being checked on 8ft-long wind tunnel models at Wharton, near Preston. BAE says it involves only "marginal development" technology. The most important proof-of-concept work, however, is being done by Rolls-Royce on the performance of which, it is claimed, derives from "the judicious exploitation of turbomachinery" and does not involve starting new developments.

Flight to freedom and fight for success

It began on October 23, 1956, with the siege of the Budapest radio building and the toppling of a 26ft statue of Stalin, which was cut off above the busts. At "Rising Sun" movement spread through Hungary, and two weeks later 5,000 Russian tanks were rolling back to attack Budapest and other cities with 200,000 troops.

A shocked and impatient world watched as the freedom fighters were shot down and 200,000 Hungarians fled their country. Some 20,000 came to Britain. Thirty years later most of them are still here and proclaim themselves for the most part patriotically British.

Very few have been oppressed for so much of its history that resilient self-reliance is a national survival instinct.



Anna found herself in a Bedfordshire village school, wearing clothes that had belonged to the local children: "My sister and I had no friends. It takes six months to make enough vocabulary to make friends. At weekends we cried with homesickness."

The uprising in Hungary that began 30 years ago this week left 20,000 refugees on British soil. How have they fared?



Permyer Louis: from coal mining to cake shops

Stephen Barlay, a radio reporter, aged 26 and just married, was smuggled out of Budapest with his wife in an ambulance. Here, when he could not find his identity papers, he was astonished that a British official took his word: "It was the first time in my life that somebody had believed me without my producing papers to prove it."

Most Hungarians, like Matyas Sarkozi, had gained their idea of England from reading Dickens at school. Appropriately they arrived in a fog and in some cases had a Dickensian reception at a workhouse, a former prison camp or Dover Barracks, but Mr Barlay was also given a Dickensian Christmas dinner by a probation officer who invited five Hungarians home.

Many others tell similar success stories. Anna Arki made a career as a journalist and TV researcher and is married to the MEP for Lincolnshire, William Newton Dunn: "I have had infinitely better opportunities here than if I'd stayed in Hungary, but there is part of me that always feels Hungarian," she says.



Anna Arki: she and her sister were frozen and frightened

Since the revolution, Hungary has changed into perhaps the most liberal of the East European satellites, with fewer travel restrictions than most. Emigres now take their children to visit surviving relatives, but none admits to the slightest temptation to stay.

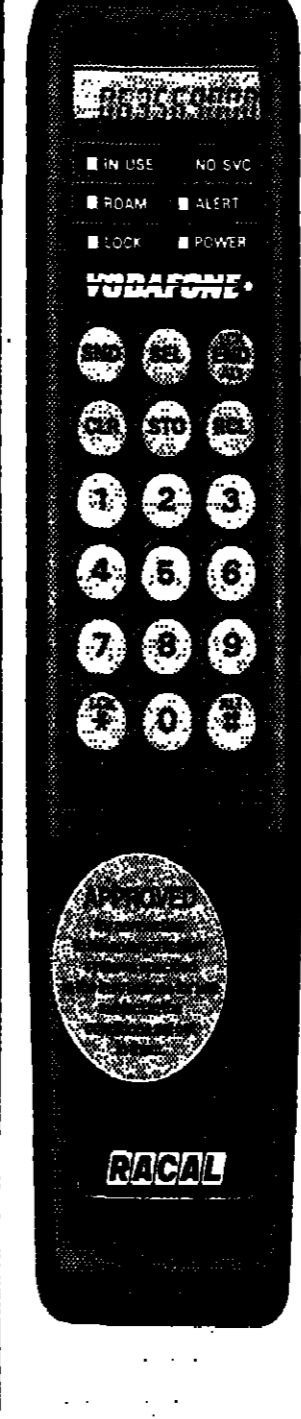
Mr Sarkozi, another writer, questioned 50 fellow-Hungarians on what they most liked or disliked about England: "Top of the list of dislikes was lack of joie de vivre, followed by lack of interest in food, incomprehension to Hungarians. What they liked best was the surprising friendliness and lack of reserve they found in England, but they deplored British laziness. Hungarians who worked in English factories had to be told to slow down."

"Hungary is a prison, but with plastic, bendable bars," said Stephen Barlay. "I wouldn't go back. This is home. This country has been better to me than Hungary ever was. If there's a Hungary-England football match, I support England."

Peter Lewis

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1086

A crossword puzzle grid with clues. ACROSS: 1 Reckless type (6), 4 Moonish eyelid (6), 7 Haystack (4), 8 Under-arm headlock (6), 9 Sea largest ocean (8), 13 Train driver's compartment (3), 16 US journalism award (R.5), 17 Hankering (3), 19 Shipwrecked man (8), 24 Mock (4), 25 Wander (4), 26 Russian plant (6), 27 Turkish skirt (6). DOWN: 1 Circle work (4), 2 Ten event contest (9), 3 Southern US hickory (5), 4 Military colour (5), 5 Fan (4), 6 Main artery (5), 10 Medical clown (5), 11 Hair lock (5), 12 Coconut kernel (5), 13 Cheval quarter (9), 14 Coffin stand (4), 15 Nimble (4), 18 Decree (5), 20 Deep blue (5), 21 Fashion (5), 22 Not stuff (4), 23 Monk's quarters (4). SOLUTION TO NO 1085: ACROSS: 1 Trivia, 2 Safe, 3 Agree, 9 Saboteur, 11 Delivery, 13 Hedonist, 15 Rejuvenation, 17 Lock, 18 Hedonist, 21 Avarice, 22. DOWN: 2 Rural, 3 Vic, 4 Assuredness, 5 Sale, 6 Frockle, 7 Bandier, 8 Temptation, 12 Veer, 14 Shoo, 16 Prevail, 19 Idler, 20 Ring, 22 Hutson.



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# 'It's a tragedy our talks failed'

## THE END OF THE STREET E.C.4.

● After years of what Rupert Murdoch was to call "emotionally draining" talks over the new Wapping plant, News International and the print unions were reaching a crunch point by September last year. There were to be many more attempts to find a formula, but the print unions refused to accept key conditions, including legally-binding no-strike agreements. Eventually this led, in January, to a strike, as a consequence of which 5,500 employees were sacked for breach of contract.

● In this third extract from *The End of the Street*, Linda Melvern's independent account of the dispute's origins, she focuses on two of the key meetings, starting with the one on September 30 at which Rupert Murdoch set a three-month deadline for a settlement.

● Neither News International nor Times Newspapers has cooperated with the author, as she makes clear in a foreword, and we do not necessarily associate ourselves with any of the statements presented as fact in the book nor with any of its conclusions



The last meeting between News International and the unions: The company negotiators included, from right, Bill O'Neill, Rupert Murdoch, Bruce Matthews (obscured) and Bill Gillespie. The union side, from left, included Bill Miles and Brenda Dean (Sogat), Tony Dubbins and Alf Parish (NGA), Harry Conroy and Mike Smith (NUJ)

### Part 3: The crunch

SEPTEMBER 30, 1985

When the general secretaries of the five main newspaper unions arrived at the Inn on the Park Hotel they were desperate for information. Their suspicions were growing about what was happening at Wapping. They knew the presses had been running and that "dummy" newspapers had been printed there.

But when Rupert Murdoch entered the room there was no time to ask him anything. He immediately began reading from a four-page document which made it clear he was at the end of his tether. Fleet Street working practices, he said, were "a disgrace to us all." Disruptions had cost several tens of millions of pounds. "Sometimes nearly bringing our whole company down."

In spite of that, he had undertaken a major, expensive building programme at Tower Hamlets. "When the costs of our plant in Glasgow are added, there will be little change from £100 million." And when negotiations over Wapping had started, the unions had presented "claims for manning levels and work practices which would have meant an actual

financial penalty for moving into this great new plant."

They (the company) had satisfied themselves that there was an opportunity for another evening newspaper in London which might quickly become a 24-hour daily, and so in the spring he had hired an independent company, Computer Print Consultants, to help make Tower Hamlets an economic and efficient base for publishing the *London Post*.

Referring to Eddy Shah's *Today* and other projects, Murdoch said they would be competing with "the overwhelming advantages of modern technology and one-way, no-strike agreements." He said this competition, while not a "major threat" demonstrated that other publishers and their unions were willing to move into their markets. "We cannot stand aside and allow our markets to be captured. If we cannot compete with our present titles, as seems the case, we must start new ones. And be first."

Then Murdoch softened his approach: "Because many of us have known each other for many years and have learnt to appreciate each other's difficulties, I have told you where we stand. I wish

that our earlier negotiations had been more fruitful. It is a tragedy for your members that they were not."

Murdoch said he still wanted to print the *News of the World* and the *Sun* at Wapping, as well as producing the *Post*, "in one integrated operation." But it was difficult to see any point in going through another series of long, unpleasant and emotionally draining negotiations with so little prospect of success.

Murdoch said that if talks on manning the *Post* made good progress, they would be extended to include the transfer of the *The Sun* and *News of the World* to Wapping as well. "The music has changed," he told Brenda Dean of Sogat at one point, "but the dance has not." Murdoch insisted on a tight deadline for talks; he said the deadline had been set by Eddy Shah, not him, and he gave the unions three months - until Christmas.

When the general secretaries left the Inn on the Park that day, they felt reassured. They believed there would be some serious negotiating about the *Post* in the coming months. They thought this was a new beginning.

Between mid-October and Christmas last year, when Murdoch's deadline for agreement expired, there were 32 meetings between News International negotiators, led by Bill O'Neill, Murdoch's vice-president for personnel and labour relations, and the unions to discuss conditions for the *London Post*. These talks, founded on the unions' refusal to accept no-strike, legally binding agreements and the abolition of the closed shop. At the end of December the unions responded by making claims for lifetime guarantees of employment and indexation of wages at Gray's Inn Road (*The Times*, *The Sunday Times*) and Bouverie Street (*The Sun*, *News of the World*). On January 13 this year, Sogat and the NGA began balloting their members on the issue of "jobs for life", with a recommendation for a "yes" vote for strike action. Sogat issued an 11-page document with the recommendation, in which Brenda Dean warned members that if they did strike, they would be in breach of contract (and therefore liable to dismissal). At the same time, the Murdoch companies gave six months notice of their intention to terminate the collective agreements with the chapels agreements, in line with the terms of those agreements (journalists were excluded). On Wednesday January 22, the two largest unions announced the ballot result - both voted to strike. Sogat by five to one, the NGA by nearly eight to one. Later the same day, Murdoch, in what he called a "final appeal", sent a letter to all his employees, saying that for five years, through "consultation and scores of meetings" he had "tried to find a way of bringing Tower Hamlets into production." And that morning he had told the unions, through the conciliation service Acas, that "our door is still open for talks on Gray's Inn Road and Bouverie Street. I want us to continue to produce our titles at both the existing plants at the same time as we see our needed expansion going ahead at Tower Hamlets." On January 23, Murdoch and the unions met formally for the last time before the strike. The book continues:

JANUARY 23

They assembled quietly that morning in a room at the Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly. Rupert Murdoch shook hands with each of the union officials, followed in turn by his executives. There was none of the usual small talk, just "good mornings." Murdoch sat with a glass of water at one hand, Polo mints at the other. Brenda Dean, leader of Sogat '82, sat opposite him. She appeared cool and collected as ever; only later would she recall her unease.

After years of bitter negotiations, both sides knew the crunch had come. The mood was sombre. There was just one half-hearted attempt, early on, to lighten it when Murdoch allowed news photographers into the room.

"What about the mirrors?" said Bill Gillespie, managing director of Times Newspapers, who was worried about flashbulb reflection in the ornate room.

"Come on, Bill!" laughed Dean. "You can't exclude the *Mirror*."

Ten days before the meeting Murdoch had given six months notice of his intention to terminate union agreements covering 5,500 production workers at his four British titles. The National Union of Journalists had

'We are going into the likes of which we have never seen before'

BRENDA DEAN

been exempted and Murdoch said he was "surprised" to see Harry Conroy, NUJ general secretary, at the meeting.

Murdoch began by saying that nothing could be gained by going over old ground. They were not there to talk about Wapping. But Wapping was all the union leaders wanted to talk about and they were armed that day with what was traditionally regarded as their most powerful weapon: a mandate for industrial action. The issue they had chosen for the strike ballot was a guarantee of jobs for life, with no compulsory redundancies if the Murdoch papers moved to Wapping.

Dean had entered the room believing she had more chance than anyone of pulling them back from the brink. A company executive had told her recently that Murdoch respected her; the attitude was: "what's a nice girl like you doing mixed up with this lot?"

At the meeting, Tony Dubbins, general secretary of the National Graphical Association (NGA) argued that before any of the titles could be printed elsewhere, there had to be agreement with the unions. "It's all too late" Murdoch said, "it's no good coming to me now."

The next few minutes were historic. Dean, speaking slowly, surrendered the power of the Fleet Street chapels. She conceded, under a plan worked out with the other unions, the management's right to manage, prohibition of wildcat strikes, binding arbitration, and ballots before strikes.

It was the unions' olive branch. To their utter amazement, Murdoch dismissed it. "If this had come three months ago the answer might have been yes," he said.

Bill O'Neill, sitting next to Murdoch, was his global industrial troubleshooter. He viewed coming to London for talks with the unions like being sent back into the trenches. Negotiating anywhere was easier than Britain - in Chicago they had just had their first strike for 47 years, in Boston there hadn't been one since before the war. O'Neill would say of London: "I guess some people here follow football, some collect stamps and some become chapel members."

Suddenly Murdoch delivered his bombshell. "It's too late for Tower Hamlets. Gray's Inn Road and Bouverie Street will have reduced manning, we will employ some hundreds of your members."

"Christ," thought Conroy. There was an adjournment, during which Murdoch told reporters the talks had been "quite lively... pretty vigorous." He did not think the unions were in the mood to go very far, but "we will see. We are not going to lie down and play dead."

Murdoch returned to the room: Dean had two offers for him - she would negotiate a deal for Wapping and she would negotiate on the basis of an earlier TUC seven-point plan. "I reject any recognition for your members at

Tower Hamlets," Murdoch replied.

The room was silent. Murdoch put his hands on the table and pushed back his chair. At that moment the talks broke down.

All Dean said publicly after the meeting was that everything put to Murdoch had been rejected. Privately, she said later: "We are going into the likes of which we have never seen before."

Bill Miles of Sogat said Murdoch had miscalculated. He believed that if there was a dispute it would be short-lived. The company would be back negotiating, sooner rather than later.

Tony Dubbins and Harry Conroy, who had been firm friends for a long time, went to the nearest pub for a pint. Dubbins was shocked at Murdoch's audacity. "We had given him an olive branch and he'd broken it in two

and beaten us round the head with it."

Both men knew Murdoch could produce newspapers at Wapping but they thought they could bank on him being unable to print the massive 4.5 million copies combined of the *Sun* and *The Times*. Even if he could print, he would have great difficulty with Sogat's members who helped with distribution - this was the key.

Conroy wondered how much support to expect from his own members, the journalists. He knew Murdoch would not be able to operate at Wapping without them. They had been instructed not to cooperate. But Conroy could not predict how they would behave; Dubbins thought they would hold fast, particularly those at *The Times* and *Sunday Times*.

Murdoch had left the hotel through the back entrance with two of his bodyguards. After lunch he went straight to Wapping, where in the past few weeks - in a Murdoch imitation - the catchphrase had become: Bloody exciting, ain't it? Bloody exciting.

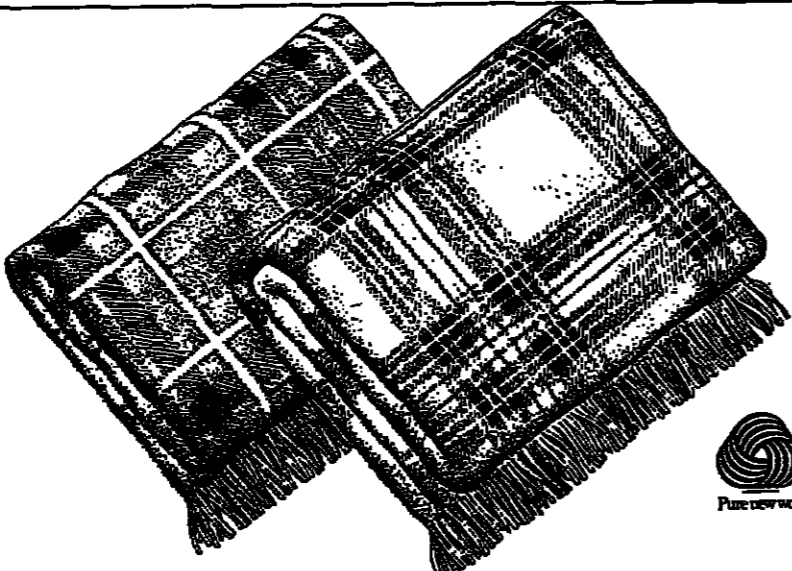
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Extracted from *The End of the Street*, by Linda Melvern, to be published by Methuen on October 27 at £9.95

TOMORROW

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The family also became involved with PLAN in an irrigation scheme. The ready supply of water meant crops could be grown, and a healthier diet is now enjoyed by all.

PLAN International's next project was to team up with the community to build and equip a school.

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Victims of crime united

Someone becomes a casualty of crime every 20 seconds, but until recently society has often ignored the sufferers. Liz Gill reports on new measures to turn statistics into survivors

Victims of crime are coming in from the cold. In the run-up to a general election politicians are jostling to show who cares the most. Labour started the bandwagon rolling two weeks ago when Gerald Kaufman promised more help for victims from his party. Days later, the Government announced a plan to give the casualties a legal right to criminal injuries compensation and pledged £9 million over the next three years to victim support schemes.

'Someone does care. Here is the lifeboat'

created every 20 seconds. But until now support groups have received a mere £1.2 million a year - a paltry part of the £2 billion budget spent on judging, jailing and rehabilitating the criminal.

Despite such financial constraints, however, victim support is one of the fastest growing voluntary sectors in the country, constantly striving for new ways to tackle the human realities behind the horrifying statistics. The latest development comes with the opening of a special room in a quiet corner of Cardiff where amid pastel walls, potted plants and pink lampshades those who have been burgled, battered, raped, assaulted and abused can start picking up the pieces of their lives again.

The Crimestress unit, as it is called, is being closely watched by the 300 other support schemes across the country as a signpost to the future. Martin Wright, information officer of the National Association of Victim Support Schemes, said: "What makes this unique is the fact that they can offer neutral territory round the clock. People frequently need to get away from their homes

either because it is the scene of the crime or because they don't feel they can talk freely in front of their families. They might feel they can't let their hair down and show any weakness.

"The other attraction is the opportunity for self-referral, and the idea that the unit gets known and people can contact it directly. Most referrals come through the police but that system has various disadvantages, including the fact that not all crime gets reported in the first place."

Crimestress, a logical development of four years' victim support work in that part of Wales, has been carefully thought out. It is no coincidence that it is in an old house in the grounds of St David's Hospital (authoritative yet non-partisan territory) nor that it has been designed to be as soothing and serene and physically comforting as possible. All the furnishings have been donated by a department store in the city but the actual decorating and painting was done by offenders on community service orders.

Its co-ordinator Philip Cole sums up its importance thus:



Wendy Helle

"It has a symbolic value, it's a sign of a caring society."

That feeling of society not caring, of indifference to their plight, is one of the most common responses of victims. "People feel totally isolated. What this is saying is that someone does care. Here is the lifeboat."

"You see, the criminal has a

lot of rights, which is as it should be, but the victims have virtually none. From the moment they go to the police station - where the offender has a statutory right to make a phone call from that station but the victim doesn't - right through to the trial and after, the system gives priority to the offender."

Victims' experiences - starting with the crime itself but often exacerbated by what follows - can lead to an extraordinary range of emotional and physical suffering: shaking, shivering, insomnia, feeling dazed or unreal, agoraphobia, nausea, overwhelming anger, indignation, confusion, and helplessness.

Such symptoms may last for weeks or months. Sometimes they last for years. The devastation can be out of all proportion to the crime itself.

Community policeman Inspector Mike Stevens, one of the key figures behind Crimestress, recalls a couple of classic examples. "A woman had her clothes fine stolen. That seems nothing, does it, but that woman was a single parent with three kids and the thief took all the clothes they had so the kids couldn't go out."

"We had one old lady who had a burglary followed by an attempted burglary. She had lived in that street for 50 years but suddenly she couldn't bear it any more. She's sold up and

'People speak of a sense of violation, of being soiled'

moved to another part of town. She doesn't know anybody, she's not happy, her life has been spoiled."

The legacy of a burglary can be the complete upheaval of a person's life. "People, including men, constantly speak of a sense of violation, of being soiled. After all, your home is your castle. It's unbearable not to be safe there."

A common reaction is to flee a previously much-loved home. Another is to sell remaining possessions "so there'll be nothing left to steal". Some become obsessive cleaners to remove the stain of intrusion.

A couple recovering at different rates can put an immense strain on a marriage. The effect on children, either directly from the crime or because they're absorbing the distress of their parents, is only now just starting to be charted, but already disturbing evidence is being uncovered of bed-wetting, nail-biting, terrors of the dark, of going upstairs, of sleeping alone or sudden aversions to school.

For Angela, a 47 year old telephonist, the crime was superficially insignificant - the theft of a few cheques from

her cheque book. The fact that it was done by a neighbour she'd befriended shattered her.

"I felt totally betrayed. I became suspicious of everyone and I'd always been so trusting before. I felt cold and dazed and unable to concentrate. My feelings restricted my life enormously. I'd only go out to go to work."

Her experience coincided with the start of Victims Support and she realized that there were others who needed a sympathetic stranger to talk to as badly as she had.

She is now a victim turned counsellor, one of a team of two dozen who have all undergone nearly 20 hours of intensive training, including briefings on law, police work, insurance, crime prevention, criminal injuries compensation, other community agencies and elementary psychology. Before they're sent out they're insured for £500,000 against giving any wrong advice.

Generally they make three or four visits to victims, measuring success by a return to normality. "We want to make people into survivors," said Philip Cole.

Though the Crimestress centre only opened its doors last month, the Cardiff scheme has seen over 1,500 victims since its inception in 1982.

A major report into the work of victim support schemes part-funded by the Home Office and carried out by research fellows Mike Maguire and Claire Cobett, of Oxford University's Centre for Criminological Research, is due in December and expected to back the schemes' importance.

In the short term the extra government cash will save schemes threatened by lack of funds and allow much needed research into the effects on (and treatment of) victims of serious crime - an area in which even the national association admits it is still feeling its way.

Philip Cole believes much can be done on a modest level to improve the victims' lot, such as providing a private room for them on court premises or removing the rule that says you can't have your property back until the case is over.

A more radical step would be the introduction into court of a full report on the effects on the victim.

"A judge calls for reports on the offender before he passes sentence, so something similar should be done on the victim. And that should be taken into account when sentence is passed."

"Victims who've had to be witnesses often feel it's they who have been on trial. When a defendant is fighting for his liberty he can say what he likes, and so he should, but often the effect on the victims is devastating - and they're just expected to carry on."

Alison Miller

After the outrage, the resentment

Margaret Kreps sits in the peace of her own kitchen on a light autumn morning. The radio is on, the washing up long since done, everything neat and tidy. She looks around and feels secure - more or less. Decorative security grilles adorn windows reinforced by steel frames.

But life after violence is much more complicated than 47-year-old Mrs Kreps imagined. Six months ago she was attacked in her home by three young men looking for money; four months ago the case came to court; two months ago one of her attackers was given 21 months in prison.

"It's only recently that I've become so angry about everything - it's such an impotent feeling, this rage," she says. "The sentence belittles the crime

and it belittles me. Justice seems to be on the defendant's side."

"I was typing on the third floor of the house, and I didn't hear these guys come in. There was a bang in the hall. I thought it was my son home from school early. I called out 'hello' and got no reply as I walked downstairs."

"The three of them were standing there. I said something like 'Who are you and what do you want?' and got no reply."

"I made a dash to the front door and started to shout very loudly. But of course no one heard. Then one thing dragged me into the hall and we started to fight. I really did put up quite a fight for quite a long time."

"He opened the sitting room door, threw me in, jumped on top of me. I

thought 'Oh my God, I'm going to be raped'. Then somebody said 'Where's the money?' I said there was some in the dining room, though there wasn't. Then he got me by the hair and threw me down the steps. He was punching me, furious at finding no money. I bit his finger hard and he punched me on the back of the head. I thought I was going to pass out."

"I said, 'My handbag is there, now will you take that and get the hell out of here.' One emptied it over the table and took my money. I was pulled up into the hall by the arms and I saw them taking my stereo and video. Then I was thrown into the sitting room and out they went."

"I gave them just a second and then called to my neighbour, but she wasn't

there. I went to the side gate thinking I might catch their car number, expecting the car to be at the end of the road, but they were sitting in it outside."

"By then I was bleeding and in quite a state. They were just sitting out there chatting. They saw me peeing, then one jumped out and kicked me and they drove away at speed."

"I managed to ring 999. I waited 25 minutes for the police to come and it was our local bobby who rang the bell and said 'I understand you've had a handbag nicked, love.'"

"It's made me more aware, more security-conscious in my home. But now I'm quite frightened of being alone in the house."

Alison Miller

TALKBACK

Harming the body?

From A.W. Fowler, F.R.C.S., Litchard Rise, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan. Mrs A. Anstis (Talkback, Monday, Page, October 13) deplores the fact that only 2 per cent of British women are receiving hormone replacement therapy for the menopause. Has she considered that this may be due to the fact that the vast majority of women instinctively feel that any interference with the physiological state is unwise and that treatment should be limited to those who have pathological symptoms?

Regrettably, the medical profession is not always as enlightened as the general public in accepting the rule that in the absence of disease, it is not possible to procure any lasting improvement in the quality of life by changing the function of the body, and that any attempt to do so will be harmful.

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Guaranteed: a superior woman or a cash refund

What does a man need to attract the perfect mate? Short fingernails, an evil streak and £65, says the author of a most unusual book...

Margaret Kent saw my problem in a trice. The reason I wasn't married to a superior woman, she said, was that firstly I was too nice, and secondly I wasn't memorable. "When women are concerned, they says, the nice guys finish last. And, to be memorable, you mustn't be afraid of being critical."

"Joan Collins walks through that door, you go up to her and say, 'OK honey, you're quite pretty but I was expecting someone younger'. That'll get her eyebrows up." Get her eyebrows up and my head cleaved open. I should think, but I was far too nice and forgettable to say that.

This sort of advice will be available to us all when Margaret Kent brings her book, *How to Marry a Superior Woman*, to Britain. She published it herself in America, as companion volume to *How to Marry the Man of Your Choice*. If £65 sounds expensive, you have to remember



Good companions: Margaret Kent and her husband Robert

that it also entitles you to a 15-minute chat on the telephone with the author, and a refund if you haven't found a mate within four years.

She was in London with her husband and co-author Robert, indeed, you might also say companion volume. They are both in their mid-forties, around 6ft tall, weigh more than 14 stone and they are both lawyers from Florida. The books are the outcome of 16 years of running courses on how to snare a mate. Margaret offered the same money-back guarantee at the start and she never once had to pay out.

She discussed what makes a superior woman and where to find her. The answer to the first is, amazingly, her mind; and among the places you will find her are airport waiting rooms, libraries and supermarkets.

What you then do is interview her, and Mrs Kent suggests some questions that I must confess I have altogether overlooked in my clumsy courtships. She suggests you ask: "Have you ever lived previously on earth?" and, even more alarming, "Can you

communicate directly with a supreme being?"

If the answer is "Yes" to those, at least it should remove any doubts you have about her superiority. You are probably dealing with a female Time Lord.

How do you attract this rare creature? Well, Margaret has a few ideas on that. Don't wear a tartan suit - women don't like them. Avoid punk hair-styles and try instead to make your hair look inviting to tousle. Do not have long fingernails since this suggests you may be reluctant to do household tasks. Missing teeth, she tells us, are a definite turn-off - a tip which in itself is worth £65.

Her tips on manners are equally worthwhile. In the restaurant, she says, eat only the food on your own plate. Use the fork for pie and the spoon for soup, rather than the other way round. She also suggests we should guard against licking our plates and belching.

In courtship, Margaret Kent recommends the masterful role. If men hesitate to criticize, women only think they are stupid. And if the woman retaliates, she suggests a useful riposte might be: "In spite of your childish antics, I am stuck on you". Oh yes, and pay no attention to your woman if she is angry before dinner: she is merely hungry. "You know what English

women are always saying? 'He'd make a wonderful husband but not for me'. You guys are too nice and women don't like that. In America when we talk about the superior woman, the name of Margaret Thatcher often comes up. But if she wasn't married, how many British men would dare to approach her for a date?"

I couldn't answer that. It sounded like a quick way to get missing teeth which, as we all know, are a turn-off. "That's the trouble," she went on. "You're very brave in business but when it comes to a superior woman, you guys are simply 15-year-old kids again. Men always make unfavourable comparisons for themselves. They say they're not as rich as Onassis instead of concentrating on the two advantages they've got over Onassis - (a) he was ugly and (b) he's dead."

She applied her techniques to Robert and got him in no time. But is she a superior woman? Robert was happy to confirm that with no hesitation whatsoever. As she said a minute later, it wouldn't have bothered her if he'd said no. "I would have known he was lying," she said, in a highly superior way.

Colin Duncan

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THE TIMES DIARY

Noises from Devon

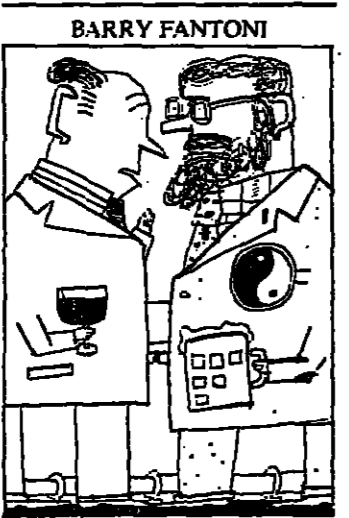
The former Liberal leader, Jeremy Thorpe, has broken the seven-year political silence he has maintained since losing his North Devon seat in the wake of the Norman Scott scandal. In two letters, an interview given to local papers, and another interview on the regional BBC television station, Thorpe has been attacking his Conservative successor in the seat, Tony Speller, for supporting government measures which he says have reduced the constituency he represented for 20 years to "a Tory backwater". Speller, denying the charges, thinks Thorpe's re-emergence could be an attempt to get a seat in the House of Lords or to replace the existing North Devon Liberal candidate and fight the next election. A puzzled Thorpe tells me: "I don't understand how you get to the House of Lords by making a noise in North Devon." As for the second notion: "Unlikely in the extreme." The simple reason for his outspokenness, he says, is that he is "extremely angry that North Devon's development status was removed by the Tories after 25 years".

Balancing act

BBC television journalists — gloomy after *Panorama's* courtroom debacle yesterday — say it would be unwise of Central Office to use the reporter involved, Michael Cockerell, as an example of "Trots at the Beeb". Back in 1975, Cockerell made the first *Panorama* to investigate Labour's Militant Tendency. Entitled "Cuckoos in the Nest", the report was roundly condemned by both Denis Healey and Michael Foot. Last year he made the *This Week*, *Next Week* film about the left's attempts to unseat Robert Kilroy-Silk, an account warmly received by the threatened moderate MP. What is more, Cockerell is married to Bridget Heathcoat-Amory, sister of the Tory MP for Wells.

Solicitations

Peter Carter-Ruck, the libel lawyer most feared by Fleet Street journalists, could not resist plugging his win in the *Panorama* case yesterday. In an unusual addition to the agreed statement in open court by the BBC and Tory plaintiffs, Gerald Howarth and Neil Hamilton, Carter-Ruck added a postscript reminding all those in court to whom he handed out copies just whose firm it was that represented the Tory MPs. On a separate sheet he added a personal statement beginning: "Perhaps better than anyone I have witnessed the distress and worry this dreadful *Panorama* programme caused my clients. . . I do not recall such self-publicity when his former client, Derek Jameson, came hopefully unstuck when suing the BBC for libel two years ago."



I didn't know you work for General Motors

Food of love

Heinz, of 57 varieties fame, is sponsoring Eire's Wexford Opera Company in its performance of Rossini's *Tancredi* in London next month. The food connection is far from inappropriate. A popular aria from another opera by Rossini, *Di tanti palpiti*, is nicknamed the "rice aria" because it was composed in the time it took for his risotto to cook. What is more, one of the great exponents of the aria was Giuditta Pasta.

Confusion over amendments to the Sex Discrimination Bill being debated in the Commons today; the baking industry — where, by custom, women work shorter hours — has been repeatedly printed on order papers as the "baking industry".

Mogg's cream

John Mogg, the private secretary to Leon Brittan who shot to brief notoriety during the Westland affair over his highly contentious minute of Brittan's meeting with British Aerospace chief Raymond Lyon, has not found his career blighted by it. He has received his expected promotion to under-secretary level, involving a salary leap of some £7,000.

Rouxbarb

I can reveal that Kleinwort Benson's boss Michael Hawkes believes to be one of his bank's strengths: rouxbarb. "Maybe it's the rouxbarb that's cooking," he says, according to the transcript of tonight's Thames TV programme on the Big Bang. Deciding to make further enquiries I discovered, *pace* Thames's typist, that what Hawkes really says is: "Maybe it's the Roux brothers' cooking." The owners of Mayfair's Gairocche restaurant, it seems, run the office catering. PHS

As Parliament assembles and conference euphoria subsides, there is a welcome new sense of direction in the government. But "new initiatives" are no substitute for a real strategy to arrest our relative economic decline.

Can decline be halted, perhaps even reversed? On the evidence of recent weeks, the answer must be — not a chance. The choices on offer after the next election seem to be: high spending and early financial collapse; good house-keeping and continued relative decline; or some unworkable compromise between the two.

Those who believe that the choice is between tax cuts on the one hand and better public services and more jobs on the other still do not grasp the chicken-and-egg nature of the problem. Higher spending will increase the tax burden, which will thus reduce the relative competitiveness and adaptability of the economy and so weaken its capacity to grow and generate jobs and tax revenues.

The view is gaining ground that lower taxes are crucial for economic growth, whether or not they are electorally popular. Japan and the new industrializing economies of the Far East are forcing the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Bank and Western policy-makers into a complete reappraisal — of which the latest proposals for US tax reductions are the most dramatic evidence so far, and may soon be emulated by other Western economies, such as West Germany's.

But the debate in Britain remains confused and the direction of policy uncertain. Because no one can see how to reduce spending, people talk of reform of the tax system, rather than tax

Still wanted: a strategy for prosperity

John Hoskyns

reduction. This leads to piecemeal and inconsistent proposals.

For example, it is argued that the damaging distortions caused by mortgage interest relief should be removed, not by its extension to other interest payments, but by abolition of the relief itself. But abolition (even if it were desirable) turns out to be politically impracticable because high tax rates mean that the "losers" have to lose so much. Reform by extension is similarly impossible because the revenue cost is too high.

On grounds of policy and practicality the only way to radical tax reform is via reduction, and tax reduction is itself the most important objective. But since it appears impossible to reduce government spending, it appears impossible to reduce tax. So the debate runs into the sand. Nothing can be done about spending, so nothing can be done about the tax burden, so nothing can be done about tax reform.

The debate fizzles out because the key to the problem — the future of the welfare state — is too sensitive to be talked about in public. The government has made

it clear that health and social security are "no-go" areas for policy purposes. It is believed that the British love the welfare state in its present form and it must be left untouched, whatever the long-term consequences. Those consequences may include continued relative or even absolute economic decline — tough luck for the welfare state's future dependents.

Britain's welfare state represents the nationalization of about £75 billion of what, for most people, should have been private spending: about a quarter of GDP, or £3,600 a year per household.

The huge businesses of social security, the NHS and education are managed by public servants lacking business experience, without prices, competition or shareholder pressure. No matter how dedicated the staffs may be, the inevitable consequences are under-investment, misallocation of resources, low morale and customer dissatisfaction.

To talk of new "management initiatives" to make such industries function effectively is delusion. Even if this were possible, the central problem would

remain. As long as £75 billion worth of goods and services is provided "free" each year and paid for out of tax revenue, it will not be possible to make the tax reductions the economy needs.

To break out of this box, the Institute of Directors recently published *Business Leaders' Manifesto* sets out a programme for privatizing £25 billion of annual welfare spending at current prices by 1990; and over the same period reducing income tax to a 19 per cent basic rate and 36 per cent top rate; with a continuation of this process to give a uniform rate of 10 per cent for income tax, corporation tax and VAT by 1997.

Such a programme would not of itself produce a British economic miracle, but it may now be a precondition for one. It would, however, involve many of the things we've all been taught to sneer at: compulsory health insurance, selective social security, education credits and, above all, competition.

It would be bitterly resisted by all those who have a vested professional interest in showing that it is impossible. If it is impossible — or is made impossible — then the miracle is probably impossible too.

The privatization of welfare is the opposite of "cuts". Nor does it mean "the dismantling of the welfare state" — which, unreformed, is likely to start dismantling itself in the end. It is designed to help good schools and good hospitals prosper; to make more money, not less, available for the growth of these privatized services; and to provide a much better safety net for those who really need it.

The author is director-general of the Institute of Directors.

Lord Moran

Time to do more for the salmon

An Atlantic salmon symposium, bringing together experts from both sides of the Atlantic, began yesterday in Biarritz. Tomorrow, the House of Commons takes the report and third reading of the Salmon Bill.

We are concerned about threatened species. Atlantic salmon do not fall into that category — yet. This year and last, surprising numbers returned to British rivers. But what matters is the long-term trend. The world catch in home waters, excluding the new high-seas fisheries, has declined by a catastrophic 50 per cent in 17 years. If we do nothing, Atlantic salmon may become as scarce as red kites.

Does this matter? I think it does. The salmon is perhaps our most interesting and splendid fish, starting life in fresh water, swimming thousands of miles to feeding grounds off the Faroes, Greenland and Grand Banks, returning after one sea-winter as grilse, or after two, three or four as salmon weighing between six and 40 pounds or more. It would be tragic if our grandchildren found our rivers empty of salmon because of failure to act now.

The problem is international. Atlantic salmon come from north-eastern North America and northern Europe. The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (Nasco) has been established in Edinburgh to co-ordinate action. It includes the United States, which is tougher than other Western governments on whale and salmon problems. Its most urgent task is restricting the high-seas fisheries off Greenland and the Faroes, now taking a quarter of a million salmon each year and putting an enormous strain on the species.

We cannot, sadly, belong to Nasco; the EEC Commission is responsible for Community fisheries and represents us. But we must work through the EEC for effective conservation measures. So far it has been the Atlantic Salmon Trust, a private body, which has kept in touch with those concerned overseas. The government should now do more.

To exert our proper influence we must put our own house in order. The Canadians, Americans and Norwegians have introduced stringent conservation measures. We have not. But in June, John Selwyn Gummer said for the Ministry of Agriculture: "I do not see salmon as a food resource in the wild. It is only incidentally a food resource."

Salmon farming, already producing seven times the total Scottish catch of wild salmon, can now provide our food needs, while rod fishing brings benefits to poor rural areas far exceeding returns from commercial netting.

The Salmon Bill began as a mainly local Scottish measure. But intense discussion in both Houses has increased its value and demonstrated the depth of concern about threats to the species. It now includes clauses which should make the sale of illegally caught salmon more difficult, and a government undertaking to review, after three years, netting off north-eastern England and in south-eastern Scotland.

Some rivers have been cleaned up and a few salmon are again running up the Thames and Tyne. The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Trust is buying up netting rights in Scotland. This is all good news, but we cannot afford to relax. Salmon are now threatened by pollution, water abstraction, legal and illegal drift-netting at sea with monofilament nets, or ganized poaching in rivers, and hydro-electric dams.

A Severn barrage, if not built with the greatest care, could wipe out runs in the Severn and the Wye. Acid deposition is damaging upland Wales and Scotland. Massed concentrations of chemicals out of polluted air and the run-off — which has dangerous acid levels and releases toxic aluminium salts — kills life in streams. Welsh Water is doing important research on this for the Department of the Environment.

The fragmentation of responsibility between four ministries in the United Kingdom, most of them giving a low priority to salmon, makes it difficult to have an effective national policy. And we need better information. Only a few rivers, such as the Spey and the Wye, are the subject of comprehensive annual statistics. Some think that only a national tagging scheme can give us reliable information on catches. We need an authoritative body to collect and publish detailed statistics and, on the basis of the best scientific advice and constant monitoring of the runs, work out a national management.

A welcome step towards this was the government's announcement in June that it would establish a standing advisory committee on salmon conservation for the whole of Great Britain (but not Northern Ireland), under an independent chairman.

This will initially consider the availability of information on the status of salmon stocks, the effects of predators, fishing at low-water levels and the effectiveness of the law against poaching. The government would earn the thanks of everyone interested in salmon if it would write this body into the Salmon Bill, making it statutory and permanent.

The author is a member of the management committee of the Atlantic Salmon Trust.

Michael Hornsby on Natal's bid for 'one man, one vote' independence

Indaba against apartheid

Durban Over the past six and a half months, as the international sanctions noose has tightened round Pretoria's neck and the battle lines between President P. W. Botha and his domestic black opponents have hardened, a small candle of reason and sanity has been kept alight in Durban, the great port city of Natal.

In the council chamber of the ornate city hall, delegates from 37 organizations, representing all race groups, have been meeting on average once a fortnight since April 3 to devise a working model for a form of majority rule. This running conference has been dubbed the Natal *indaba* (the Zulu word for a tribal assembly).

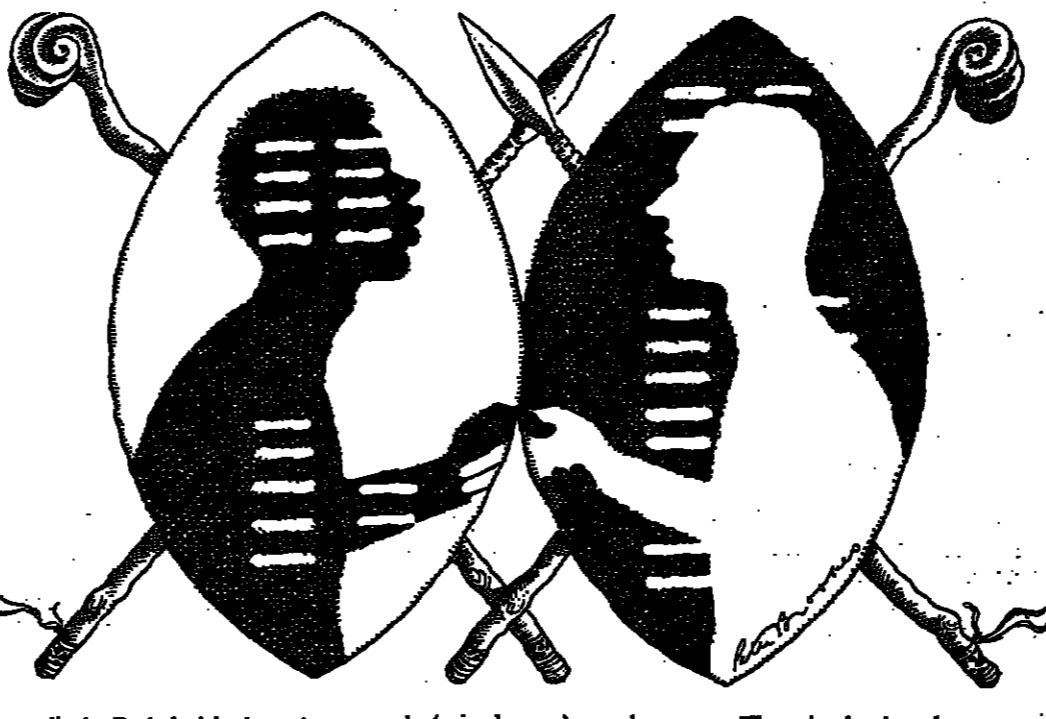
On July 11 it was able to announce that it had achieved its first objective: the adoption of a bill of rights which should, it is intended, become part of the constitution of a new racially integrated and largely self-governing province of Natal in which every resident over the age of 18 would have the vote and be represented in a single parliament.

If enforced, the bill of rights would sweep away the remaining structures of apartheid in the province, whose 6,620,300 inhabitants make up 22 per cent of South Africa's population. Its 15 detailed clauses guarantee, for example, equality before the law and the right of everyone to own and occupy property anywhere, regardless of race. That would mean the end of one of the most important legal pillars of apartheid, the Group Areas Act, which enforces racial separation.

The bill of rights also guarantees that any person arrested or detained must, within a reasonable time, be either released or charged and tried in a court of law. That provision would run directly counter to the Internal Security Act and other repressive legislation on which Pretoria relies to keep black opposition in check.

This all sounds, to put it mildly, somewhat utopian in the South African context. All the more so as the *indaba* has no power to put its proposals into effect without Pretoria's approval; and key players on the black political stage, such as the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), and its still justly shadowed ally, the United Democratic Front (UDF), have refused to take part, condemning the exercise as divisive of the black nationalist cause.

The *indaba's* main claim to be taken seriously is the involvement of Inkatha, the well-drilled, Zulu-dominated political organization with more than a million paid-up members led by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi. Although anathema to



the radicals, Buthelezi is the only black politician outside the ANC and UDF who has a substantial following and who has so far refused to be drawn into any of the negotiating forums devised by the government.

Pretoria declined an invitation to be a full participant in the *indaba*, but the ruling National Party is represented by observers. Whites are also represented by the anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party and by various business and professional organizations, both English-speaking and Afrikaans.

The *indaba* deserves attention if only because, in the words of Dr Oscar Dhlomo, Inkatha's secretary-general, it is at present "the only show in town" — the only place where the search for a negotiated, non-violent solution to South Africa's racial conflict appears to be making any headway at all.

The *indaba* is being held behind closed doors, but interviews *The Times* has conducted with participants suggest that remarkable progress has been made. The aim is the setting up of a single executive, accountable to a single legislature elected on a one-man-one-vote, proportional representation system. This would entail scrapping the separate administrative and legislative structures of the KwaZulu tribal homeland areas and the white-occupied parts of Natal, and treating the province as a single entity.

As Natal's population is 78 per cent black (predominantly Zulu but with an important Xhosa minority), 11 per cent Indian, nine per cent white (mainly English-speaking) and two per cent Col-

oured (mixed race), such an approach can only produce a government and parliament in which whites are in a small minority.

The conundrum that the *indaba* is trying to solve is at the heart of any negotiated solution to South Africa's ills: how to give blacks the substance of majority rule and, at the same time, devise — if possible on a basis that is not overtly racial — ways of assuring whites and other minorities that their views will still carry some weight.

The *indaba* believes it has found a way of squaring this circle so far as the single executive is concerned. Its proposal, broadly agreed by the delegates, is that the province would have a ceremonial governor, appointed by President Botha on the recommendation of the Natal parliament. Under him there would be a prime minister — chosen by whichever party, or coalition of parties, achieved 51 per cent or more of the votes — and cabinet.

The prime minister would be entitled to give half of the cabinet portfolios to people from his own party or coalition. The other half would be allocated proportionally to all other parties represented in parliament. The prime minister would thus command half the votes in cabinet plus his own. The provincial government would have complete control over such things as education, health, housing and schools, but foreign affairs, defence and international trade would remain in the hands of the central government. Much more controversial are the questions of tax-raising powers and the administration of justice.

There is also broad agreement on the principle of special, weighted representation for minority parties in parliament. One solution being discussed is that any party that could win at least one per cent of the vote (the threshold might be set higher) would be guaranteed a minimum number of seats.

Suppose that Inkatha wins 70 per cent of the vote and gets 70 out of 100 seats. Five other parties win six per cent of the vote each, giving them six seats each. These smaller parties might then be given another two seats each, to bring them up to a guaranteed minimum of eight. The minority parties would then command 40 seats out of 110, up from 30 seats to 36 per cent of the total.

The *indaba* participants are hopeful that they can reach agreement on all outstanding matters by the end of November. They have decided that before they submit their proposed constitution to the government it should be endorsed by a referendum in Natal — an all-race referendum, or a series of separate plebiscites conducted among each race group.

If it can be shown that the proposed constitution has substantial popular support, would the government agree to go along with it? Botha might be tempted to view a multiracial Natal as a way of placating international opinion. He might also see some advantage in allowing an experiment in power-sharing in a province where the government has never had much political following and thus has little to lose.

D-day for Steel's nuclear options

present submarines, the alternatives involve fitting the coming Trident submarines with either the French M4 missile, or Polaris, or the cruise missile.

Although David Owen would have preferred to commit the Alliance to one of these choices, he can still live with the report. So can Simon Hughes. "I believe in multilateral negotiations," says Hughes, "and you can only do that if you have something to negotiate away." All he was ever against, he explained, was European nuclear co-operation. He now says he is quite happy to back a minimum nuclear deterrent as long as it is not the "Euro" option.

This represents a significant victory for Steel. Although he will want to portray the report as a compromise, taking on board the differing views in the Alliance, it still represents his determination to overturn the conference decision. Although it is important for

Steel to get his parliamentary party to back the report (which, apart from Michael Meadowcroft, it is expected to do) it is the policy committee that has the constitutional power to make Liberal policy. However, Steel is now confident that after today's meeting of Liberal MPs the new defence policy will finally become Liberal policy.

Hughes is quick to point out, though, that "it would be folly if others in the party were not consulted". That is why Steel's aides will be pressing him to ask the party's national executive to call a special one-day Liberal assembly to back his call for a minimum nuclear deterrent. They rightly perceive that if he could publicly get his party's backing on this issue the Alliance could win back the support it has lost to the Conservatives.

But if he lost again, or if he won by only a few votes, the additional damage to the party and to the Alliance would be immense. Not

surprisingly he is unsure whether he should risk it.

The last special Liberal assembly, in January 1978, was called, against Steel's wishes, to end the Lib/Lab pact; but it ended up approving and even extending the pact. According to Steel's shell-shocked opponents, who wrote down their conclusions in the Liberal magazine *New Outlook*, the assembly showed "the power of the directly elected leader to appeal over the heads of the party activists to the electorate". It was a huge slap in the face for those who had tried to tie Steel down to a cumbersome assembly decision, only to see him given a free hand.

There are two reasons why Steel would be likely to win again if he called a special assembly to ratify his defence policy. First, it is held on a Saturday, which enables many rank-and-file Liberals to attend, instead of just the most ardent activists. Secondly, Liberals would be faced with one of two options: back Steel or sack Steel. The horrors of losing their most popular leader before an impending general election should be enough to cool the most dedicated opponent.

Roland Rudd

moreover . . . Miles Kington

An ovation for innovation

In an effort to encourage employment among the young, we are instituting an Entrepreneur of the Month award, to be given to those business schemes that seem to be most worthy of support and publicity. Here is the shortlist for the award for October; the winner will be chosen by Lord Moreover at a brief ceremony at the Park Scratching Service Area on the M1 at the end of this month.

The Rejected Novels Service Adrian David has capitalized on the fact that many authors offer to write to change publisher, but find themselves committed by their contract to writing two more books for the old publisher.

"Or at least offering two more books to the old publisher," says Adrian. "If they are terrible books, as they often are, the publisher rejects them and honour is satisfied all round."

"But no author wants to waste time writing books to be rejected. That's where we come in — we write the rejected novels for him or her. And we guarantee they will be written in their style, but badly enough never to get accepted. You'd be surprised at some of the famous authors we've written books by."

The M25 Canteenette It is sometimes said that only in the Third World do you get salesmen taking advantage of stationary traffic — every time the lights go red in some country, you are besieged by paper-sellers, car-wipers, etc. On the other hand, you don't get traffic jams in the Third World like on the M25; and you don't get service areas on the M25 either. That's why Doreen Dunbar and her two brothers started the mobile M25 canteen service.

"We appear on the hard shoulder during rush-hour, bringing tea and snacks to drivers caught in the jam. It's strictly illegal, but we do a roaring trade. I don't think the drivers are hungry so much as bored, but at least 50 per cent of them buy something. Soon we're thinking of offering beer and spirits. After that, maybe a mobile loo."

The Fashion Advice Kiosk at Waterloo "I got involved briefly with a shoeshine stall last year," says award hopeful Peter Tracker, "but the image of the shoeshine seemed hopelessly old-fashioned. So did most of the clothes of our customers, frankly. That's where I got the idea from: most people today just don't have the faintest idea what they should be wearing."

because fashion has got so diffuse. "So I've now set up this small kiosk in Waterloo station where, for £5, people can have a consultation with me over what they should be wearing. Well, I say 'consultation' — actually, I just tell them what to wear. And they love it."

The Invisible Dirt Service Victor Crettle has invented something which has already made a fortune for the British dry-cleaning industry: a fluid that evaporates and becomes invisible, then gradually turns into a stain after two weeks.

"Know how you sometimes take a garment home quite clean, then the first time you wear it it seems to get dirty instantly? That's because the cleaners have put my invisible dirt fluid on it. So you have to take it straight back to the cleaners. So they make a fortune. So everyone's happy. Well, except you, of course, but you're only the customer."

BE Mobile Pawnsshop Malcolm Ridgate noticed that many passengers on Inter-City trains had to pay extra, either because they were on the wrong train with the wrong saver ticket, were travelling first class on a second-class ticket or had otherwise fallen foul of regulations. Usually they were cashed based by the demand for extra cash, but when Malcolm introduced his mobile pawnshop where they can instantly pawn objects of value and raise the money for the ticket. Very often he finds that passengers who are not in debt also want to do business with him, usually because they've never been to a pawnshop.

Insurance Insurance Simon Craxley is of the firm opinion that most insurance companies hardly ever pay up — that however well-insured you are, the company always finds a loophole to creep through. His answer? To offer you a service that insures you against insurance companies. Yes, with Craxley's Insurance Insurance, you can actually get your money back if an ordinary insurance company fails to pay up.

"On paper, at least," says Craxley. "In practice, we're just like any other insurance company and we've hardly paid out a penny yet. More loopholes, etc. But I tell you what, you could always insure against not being paid by us."





## All the extras in the air for the executive guests

British businessmen made 4.5 million business trips by air last year. They spent a total of £17.4 billion on their travel and entertainment, almost as much as the total annual combined bill to UK residents for rates, advertising and corporation tax.

This is seen by the airlines as their bread and butter. To make profits they must not only attract the businessmen — they must keep him, getting him to ask for their airline every time. More than 60 per cent of most airlines' revenues comes from this sector, though the number of passengers is no more than 10 per cent of the total.

More and more airlines are trying to identify their regular business passengers, offering them membership of executive "clubs", cosseting them and making them feel that they belong.

One thing they rarely do is cut the cost of a business ticket. If any marketing manager suggested such a thing he would be drummed out for heresy. To reduce the price of a business ticket would inevitably mean lowering the average amount earned on any given flight.

So, apart from a few notable exceptions, businessmen are cajoled into paying more for their flights than an "ordinary" passenger who

is made to feel inferior to them and unworthy of the special attention they get.

But they cannot be given too much. If the standards in the business cabin were allowed to rise, they might match those of the really high-yield fares — F or First Class, encouraging the handful of wealthy passengers to "trade down".

It could be argued, therefore, that the airlines are exploiting the business traveller, giving him inferior service and yet charging him the most they can get away with. There is a fair degree of truth in this, especially with Europe. But it would not succeed if the demand were not there. No businessman likes to believe he is being treated in the same way as a "back-packer" tourist.

He is the international traveller, experienced in the ways of the world, needing to work at the other end, employed by a big company which will pay his bills provided he arrives fresh and ready to begin work.

Even in allegedly classless China the national airline CAAC offers first-class accommodation for VIPs such as the heads of a successful works co-operatives.

This preoccupation with status led some airlines to experiment with in-flight telephones, convinced that to be made to feel really important

the passenger travelling on business must be able to keep constantly in touch with his office. But a more detailed survey has shown this to be untrue. When questioned more closely, the typical businessman wants to be pampered but not pestered.

He does not want to have a secretary provided by the airline to answer his every business need. His company may like it, but he doesn't.

It is an indication of how seriously the airlines are taking the business traveller that they are conducting such research. They have also commissioned surveys into food — does he really want low-calorie, simple food as most claim they would prefer? One airline which tried to introduce such fare sold none in the first few months of offering it on the menu.

So assuming the businessman is a highly complex psychological animal needing better service, prepared to pay more than the cut-price ticket holders, always aware of that imprecise feeling of status, and yet trying to obtain value for money, just what is available for him?

In Britain and Europe, British Midland has probably done most to confront the price problem head on. Not only has it introduced a new high-quality Diamond Service on flights within Britain and

to Amsterdam, but it has also lowered fares.

Michael Bishop, BMA's chairman, said: "The business or regular traveller has been cross-subsidizing the tourist for too long. Those people who must fly or must go at a particular time can rarely get any kind of discount."

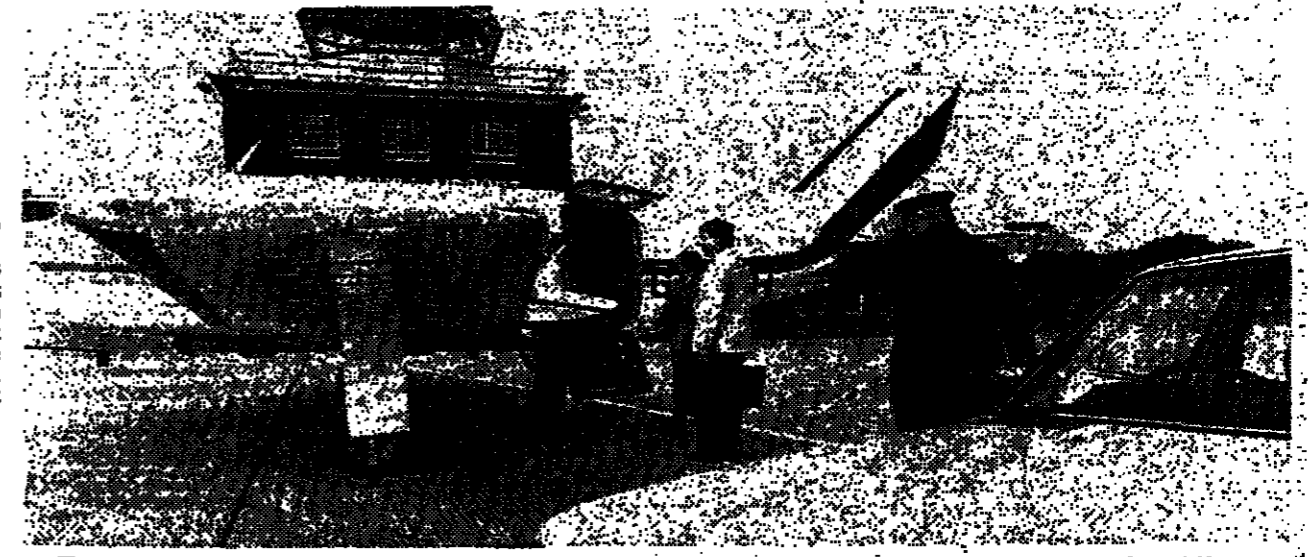
Yet those who can arrange their travel to include a Saturday night or can book well in advance can often save huge amounts. It doesn't seem right to us and we are trying to break through the barriers that have been put in the way of the business traveller.

The airline is, therefore, offering a £69 round trip fare to Amsterdam, regardless of how long the passenger stays there or how early he books his ticket. This compares with the normal economy fare of £84 charged by KLM and £89 by British Airways.

### Under-counter deals demanded

There are even cheaper fares available for those booking early or staying over a weekend, just as there are on the rival airlines. But, according to Mr Bishop this is the first example of a really cheap business fare within Europe.

He has introduced a similar cut-price deal for travellers within Britain, drastically undercutting the rivals by



Take-off time: the world-travelling executive of today wants service all the way, or he may choose another airline

offering cheap deals for anyone who wants to go to Glasgow, Edinburgh or Belfast and stay for a maximum of three days. "If we are serious about expanding business within Europe we must not allow air fares for the businessman to be so high they become a deterrent to travel and therefore to export."

The Civil Aviation Authority has also weighed in with its own piece of proposed rules which will allow travel agents to split their commission — usually about 9 per cent — on air tickets with the customer.

There already are under-the-counter deals by which big companies have demanded, and got, discounts on their travel. But it has usually been confined to the large companies whose business is so big

that it is worthwhile for travel agents to cut their prices to compete.

Strictly speaking, this is illegal. Now the CAA wants anyone who spends more than £100,000 a year on travel to be able legally and formally to ask for a bulk discount rate.

Unfortunately, a cloud hangs over the other method of getting cheaper business travel — this is the American method of offering special discounts to frequent flyers, under which regular travellers with a US airline are given a "bonus" for every journey they make, then accumulated until it qualifies them for free or cut-price flights.

The British taxman is sceptical about such schemes and has threatened to charge anyone taking advantage of this against his notional earnings.

So these schemes are largely available only within or originating from the United States.

Swissair is experimenting with a scheme to charge regular travellers a lump sum once a year, then give them a discount of up to 30 per cent on all individual tickets after that.

This is meeting opposition from its rivals within Europe, who are constrained by the tangle of international agreements covering air fares and routes.

### Virgin gives away an economy ticket

Other airlines have decided to go for different ways of attracting the business passenger.

British Caledonian, for example, has concentrated on the ground travel as well as the air, offering free door-to-door limousine transfers from home to the airport and from the destination airport to hotel on its North American and Hong Kong services.

It is a scheme also followed by Virgin Atlantic, which has added attraction of Upper Class fares lower than its competitors' Business Class fares.

Virgin's Upper Class is luxurious, with 55 inches between seats and all the trimmings normally associated with First Class. It now gives away an Economy Class ticket to every business traveller who buys an Upper Class ticket.

British Airways, with millions of passengers of all classes, would not be able to offer free transport from home

to airport and so concentrates on the benefits of its Executive Club.

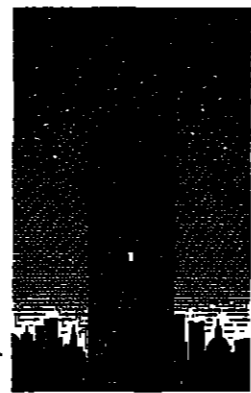
This offers the unrivalled advantage of special executive lounges in most of the major airports around the world. They not only provide the usual standards associated with business travel but specific seats can be booked in advance. Every airline is slightly more leg room and a better standard of service than for the normal economy passenger. And if the standard of the average business class service is compared with that of First Class of only 10 years ago, there would be a marked similarity.

As the authoritative magazine *Business Traveller*, which constantly keeps an eye on the business market, points out, the real cost of travel is still rising, because the price of a hotel room almost anywhere in the world can sometimes far exceed the cost of an air ticket. There are now ways of obtaining discounts on hotel rooms, such as Hogg Robinson's unique Hotel Service, which can, for example, offer a client a room at the Holiday Inn in Mayfair for £70, compared with the normal rack rate of £105 and the corporate rate of £80.

The time is coming when companies will have to consider far more carefully the cost of sending an employee abroad. There are indications that smart entrepreneurs are ready to help them do it at enormous savings.

Harvey Elliott  
Air Correspondent

## Why workaholics seldom get to the top.



Is he working his way to the top?  
Or not on top of his work?

This is a true story.

One company we know employed a man who worked very hard every day, long after everybody else had gone home and often at weekends as well.

His job wasn't particularly important or well paid. But everybody marvelled at how long and painstakingly he laboured.

At 9 o'clock one night, a few years before he was due to retire, he went to collect some more paper from the stationery store. On the way, he had a heart-attack in the lift.

Nobody was there to tend him. They'd all gone home. So he died.

His bosses felt guilty. Had they been overworking him, they wondered.

So they gave someone else the job to do and watched carefully to see how he fared.

The new man found he could do the entire job in two days a week.

Workaholics, it seems, do not work for success or riches.

They don't work to achieve anything.

For them, work is an end in itself. If anything, they work to create more work.

True, you may say, but what has this to do with InterCity. (We assume you've spotted the logo at the bottom of this page.)

Next time you're on the motorway, look at the business folk in their cars.

What are they accomplishing?

Not a lot.

They are achieving nothing more than covering the miles to Liverpool, London, Birmingham or wherever. And they are turning it into hard work.

Look at their faces. Do they look as though they're enjoying it?

When they get to the other end, they will be tired. So they will have the comforting feeling that they have done a day's work and earned their money, before they even reach their meetings.

Now look at the people covering the same journey on InterCity.

These people are shirking.

They are reading magazines, doing crosswords, playing chess, thinking, eating meals, studying reports, formulating their strategy, snoozing, daydreaming. Heaven help us, some of them are drinking alcohol.

Most of all, they are having a nice time.

Is this any way for go-ahead executives to conduct themselves?

It certainly is.

They arrive at their meetings with fresher, clearer minds. They are probably more alert and certainly less tired. Quite simply, they're in a fitter state to do business.

What's more, they get to their meetings at up to 125 miles an hour instead of 70.

Sometimes the way to the top is to do less work.

InterCity

## Flights from the centre of the city

In just under a year's time London will have its first fixed wing international airport.

The only airport to have a genuine London postcode on its letterhead is now well on the way towards completion near the heart of the City. It is the first new airport to be built on a site previously unconnected with aviation for more than 40 years.

Already airlines from Britain and Europe are lining up to be the first to fly there, convinced that if they are given licences to operate from London City Airport they must make money.

Only a few years ago the idea of anyone being able to operate anything other than a helicopter from the East End of London would have been regarded as an insane pipe-dream. But several things happened at once to make the seemingly impossible a sudden reality.

First, the London docks — the centre of trade and commerce for 500 years — died on their feet. Secondly, a new dynamic authority was established to breathe new life into the area. Thirdly, a new breed of quiet aircraft, capable of taking off and landing on short runways, was produced.

And, fourthly, two companies, one a construction business and the other an airline, saw the potential and decided to put their money into making the project work.

The John Mowlem engineering and construction group has invested more than £15 million into the new airport, convinced that it will get its money back through landing fees, handling charges and concessions.

And with a potential number of 120 aircraft movements a day and a total number of passengers of 1.3 million a year, there is every indication that they will succeed.

Bryan Airways, the Plymouth-based regional airline, has already proved conclusively that it is possible to land on a short runway in a big city by demonstrating just such an operation at another nearby, even shorter, landing strip on another disused dockside.

Now it has applied to the CAA for 18 routes, both within Britain and to the rest of Europe. The jewel in its crown would be a constant shuttle linking Heathrow, Stansted, Gatwick and the City Airport.

That would enable businessmen to leave their offices in the Square Mile, hop to a major international gateway and be on their way to their foreign destination before their rival had even batted through the

traffic to one of the three existing London airports.

The new airport is designed almost exclusively for businessmen and it is expected that more than 80 per cent of all passengers will be travelling on behalf of their companies. This means fares will not be at the cheap "back-packer" end of the market.

But all the airlines bidding to start services from the City Airport, or Stotport as it has been called until now, intends to offer the kind of high-quality club class service on board their aircraft which such passengers demand.

The next step is for the five British airlines — two of them still no more than paper ideas — to submit their detailed



applications, including costs, proving how they can make money and operate safely and efficiently, by the end of this month. Then there will be a public hearing of the applications by the CAA early next year.

By next summer the CAA will have decided to whom to grant the licences. And in the autumn the airport should begin its first service.

The airport director, John Douthwaite, appointed by Mowlem, believes the airport should be paying its way within two years.

Because the main terminal will be less crowded than existing airports there should be a rapid turn-around time for the De Havilland Dash 7, the main aircraft to use the new airport.

There will be no long walks down corridors to the check-in desks and both customs and immigration facilities should be quick and efficient.

The airport will also provide jobs for about 500 people in an area which is rapidly developing as the main growth region in the south of England.

HR

الطيران الحديث

# Catering for the inner man on the move

Clive James said recently: "I love flying. You get so many meals." As one who once asked for, and got, two servings of a three-course British Caledonian lunch, I couldn't agree more.

Not that in-flight food is always a pleasurable experience. Electrocuting steak, overcooked vegetables and a sickly pudding straight out of the nursery have always featured prominently on airline menus. The airlines are not alone in this disgrace of course. We have all heard the one about the British Rail pork pie. But the good news for the business traveller is that things are finally beginning to improve, both in the air and on the tracks.

The head of the British Airways catering operations, John Taylorson, admits that he does still get the odd complaint. Sporadically, perhaps, he does not cite space restrictions, stringent temperature controls — dishes have to be stored above 60 degrees or below 10 degrees to avoid contamination — or the fact that food has to be prepared at least four hours in advance, as an excuse.

He points instead to a growing pile of letters actually praising BA's attempts to please the more discerning palate.

BA has brought in outside help. The Roux brothers, of Le Gavroche and Waterside Inn fame, have had an expert hand in the Concorde menus, teaming up such mouth-watering delicacies as Beluga caviar and smoked salmon, medallions of veal, and sweetcorn cakes, making what is basically a fairly uncomfortable way to travel a lot more luxurious.

The culinary twosome have had some influence on BA's

other menus too, sharing creative ideas with those ultimately responsible for what you find in your BA food tray, the BA chefs.

Airline meals are also getting more in tune with today's obsession with healthier eating. British Caledonian offers first class and business class passengers something called *La Cuisine du Ciel*, which concentrates on lighter and innovative continental dishes and includes some imaginative salads and fresh fruit baskets. BA's new stodge-free meals promise to "please the eye, delight the palate and make your journey a truly pleasurable one".

## 'Pleasing the eye and the palate'

The greatest improvement, though, is breakfast. Fierce competition on the shuttle routes has ensured that where once all you got was a croissant-shaped roll, you can now tuck into a cholesterol-soaked Great British Breakfast. British Midland does a particularly wonderful early-morning feast.

Unchanged, unfortunately, are the breakfasts served on cross-Channel flights because there simply is not time to prepare and serve (and eat) anything more elaborate than a basic cold collation. And, be assured, those served on transatlantic routes still appear when you least want them — two hours after you last ate and 5.30 am local time.

What shows little sign of improvement, however, is in-flight wine. When the magazine *Business Traveller* made its annual airline wine survey earlier this year, the World's Favourite Airline sank to the bottom of the poll and British

Caledonian's offerings garnered a dismal 135.5 points out of a possible 280.

Oz Clarke, editor of *Webster's Wine Price Guide*, comments: "Wine is an important part of travel. BA just can't be bothered. I flew the Bordeaux run last week and the wine wasn't even remotely pleasant. I drank orange juice instead."

A rule of thumb where airline wine is concerned is to choose the airlines of younger countries such as Air New Zealand or Qantas, which both serve excellent reds and whites, and to drink nothing served from a quarter bottle. Good wine never comes out of a small bottle.

It does not come out of a British Rail buffet car, either. Or at least that used to be the case. These days a glance at the first-class wine list reveals several respectable wines.

What is more, the waiters have all attended a wine appreciation class, so they know the difference between a Bordeaux and a Cotes du Rhone.

Wine apart, there are three important things the business traveller should know about BR. First, it no longer sells stale sausage rolls or those infamous pork pies. Secondly,



Good news at the table: the world's airlines are now improving their fare and at home British Rail is shedding its traditional foul food image



it is introducing "consumer-controlled flavour" tea (tea bags to the rest of us). Thirdly, it really is beginning to serve some fine meals.

It has been the task of the retail and catering manager David Sumner to put what he calls the romance back into travel, and that means good food and, just as important, staff who make the passenger feel cosseted.

BR's catering flagship is its Pullman service which operates between London and principal stations to Blackpool and Newcastle upon Tyne.

First-class ticket-holders using Pullman trains are whisked to their seats by a BR steward and provided with a cup of coffee and a hot towel (in the best airline style). Passengers are then served at their seats with either a sumptuous breakfast (£7.70 or £4.80) or an à la carte meal. And the tea and coffee keep on coming for as long as you want.

First-class passengers on ordinary services have it pretty good these days too. When BR introduces its Cuisine 2000 concept, things will be better still.

"Cuisine 2000," explains Mr Sumner, "is what we are calling our new cook-chill system. At the moment everything is cooked on board, so there is a limit to what we can actually do. With cook-chill, we buy in semi-cooked chilled foods, as the airlines do, and just finish things off."

## Served on china from a salver

It means that we will be able to offer dishes like Beef Wellington, which we could

never cook on a train."

Unlike the airlines, BR does not intend to let you eat your Beef Wellington from a plastic trough — it will be served from a silver salver on to a new range of octagonal china. And you will not have to lurch along to the buffet car to eat it either — waiters will bring it to your seat. The system is already in operation on two London-Manchester trains and will be brought into gradual service from the end of April 1987.

Like the airlines, BR has made several concessions to

healthier eating. White bread has been banished — brown bread Marks & Spencer-style sandwiches now come in eight different fillings and cost from 69p — and the histro service, available only on the London-Birmingham line, offers a ham salad for £5.25. The Choice Express menu, available mainly on the through-London services, provides a vegetable lasagne for £1.95.

Maggi O'Sullivan

Features Editor Business Traveller

# Businesslike ways to treat a woman

Any woman travelling the world on her company's behalf is probably intelligent, competent and sophisticated.

Therefore, when a high-powered woman executive is reduced to putting a pair of paper knickers on her head in an attempt to attract the attention of the waiter in a famous Paris hotel restaurant, one begins to realize that perhaps some hotels could be trying just a little harder to woo this lucrative and growing sector of the business travel market.

France is generally regarded as the last European bastion of rudeness and discrimination, but there have been incidents just as inexcusable in first-class London hotels. It is bad enough for a woman dining on her own to be hidden behind the pillars of the restaurant. It is arguably worse if the delicate power play of her business dinner is shattered by the bill being presented to her male guest.

But it is unforgivable when a businesswoman, in a breathtaking misunderstanding by hotel management, is accused of being a prostitute and barred from making her way upstairs to her room.

Yet the difference between alienating a businesswoman for ever or making her feel so at ease that she returns again

taking women seriously is Crest. It too has retrained staff to be aware of the woman on her own, to be discreet about her room number when checking in, to recognize who is the host at meals and to ensure that no woman is ever harassed in the hotel bar. Both hotels also provide decent hangers for women's clothes, full-length mirrors, luxury toiletries and hairdriers. After all, if shaving points come as standard fittings, why cannot make-up mirrors?

Crest take women business travellers seriously, distributing questionnaires to guests and acting on the findings. Consequently, they are soon to introduce an iron and a trouser press that converts easily into an ironing board in all rooms — the most requested item.

Annita Roddick, founder of The Body Shop, travels twice round the world every year, so she has built a repertoire of hotels where she knows she will be treated well. Her favourite is Regent Hotels, a South Pacific group in which, she says, the service is second to none.

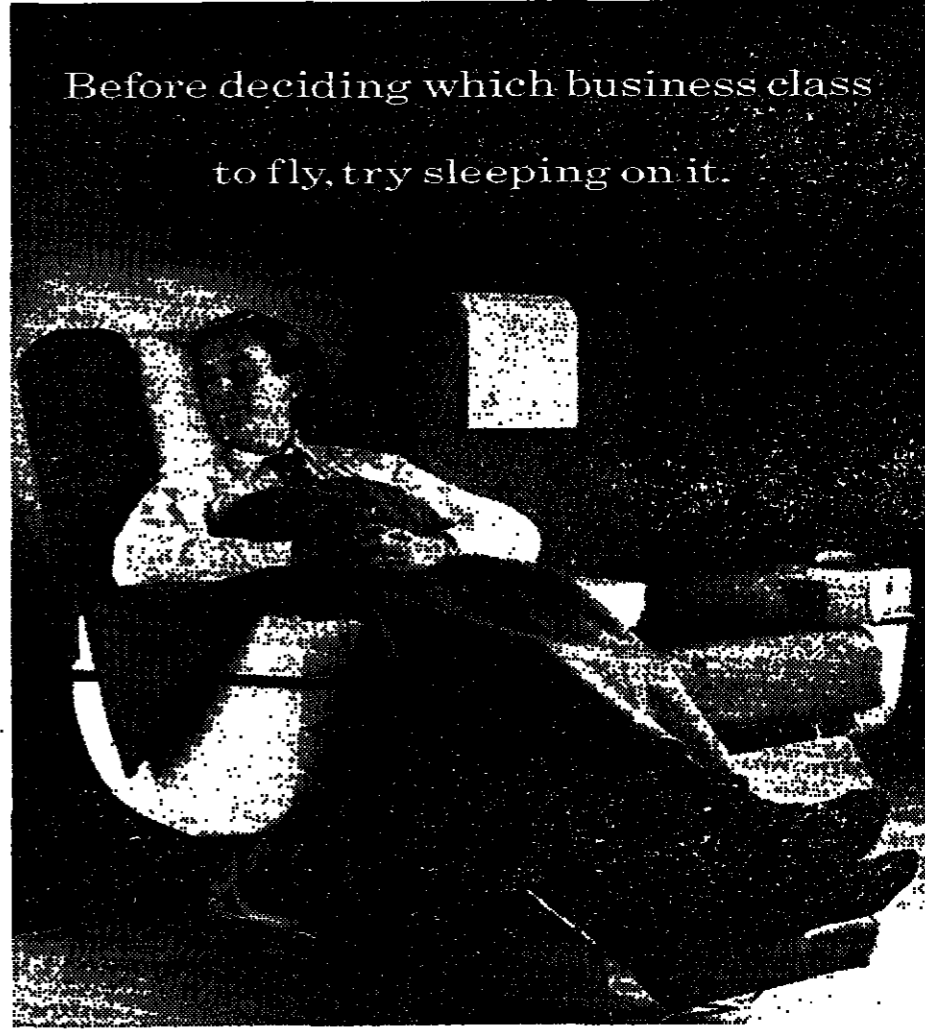
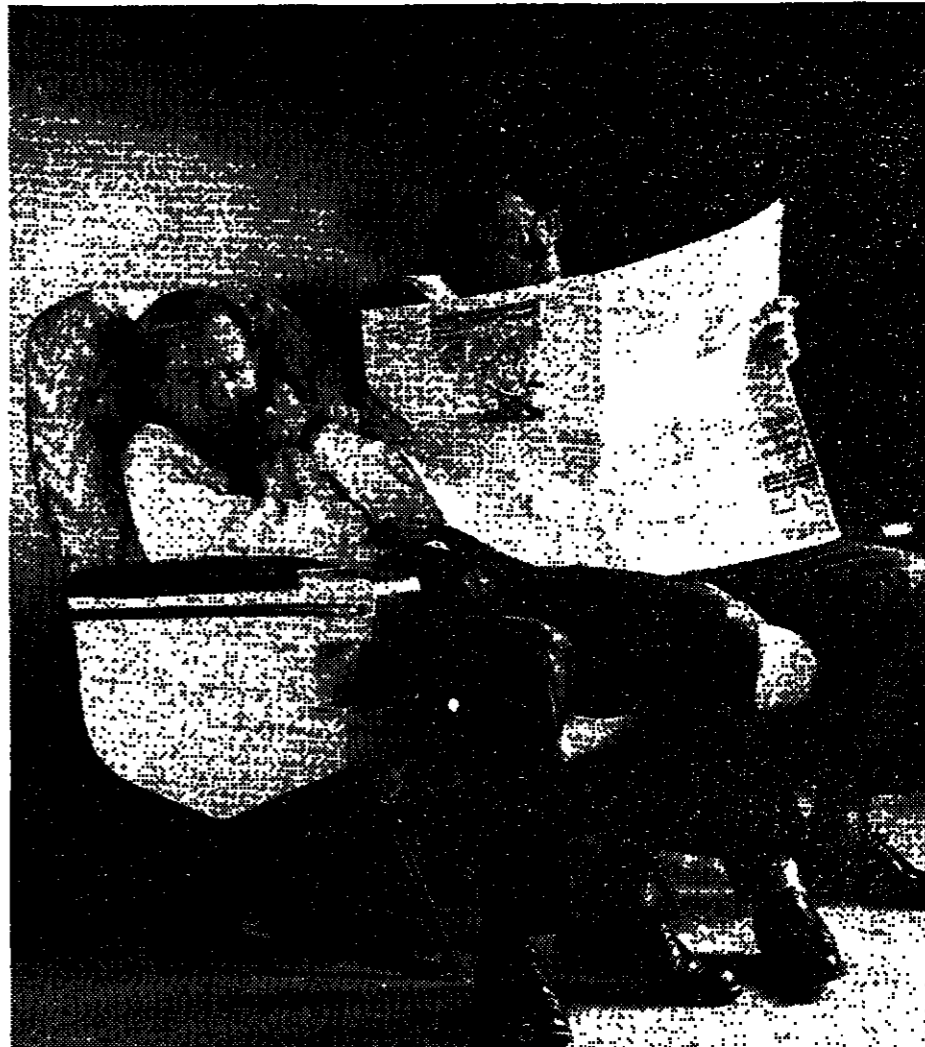
However, the one area she would like to see improved in all hotels is the laundry service, a common gripe. She would also like to see a small library of books in hotel bedrooms and a massage service to unwind her after a stressful day. Her biggest complaint about travelling on business — while she may fly first-class her luggage rarely does, often getting lost or turning up late!

Another well travelled executive is Jean Denton, external affairs director of Austin Rover. Twenty years of experience have taught her to look for the smaller hotel where she will receive much more personal service. Her priorities: a decent light in the bedroom to work by and some visible means of securing the door at night. Her car telephone has made an enormous difference to her working life as she now feels completely confident driving late at night.

Perhaps the real breakthrough for businesswomen will happen when more of them are appointed to senior hotel management positions. Doreen Boulding has been general manager of the Belgravia Sheraton for a year and admits she is rather a rarity. She comes from a sales and marketing background and has travelled extensively, so she knows exactly what women want. "I just want things to work, to feel comfortable, and not to feel like I'm going to be picked up in the bar. I train my staff accordingly."

While hotel staff attitudes are important, women business travellers too must be perceptive. After all, if you receive poor service in a hotel, it may not be because you are a woman on her own. It could just be that you picked a bad hotel.

Helen Copland



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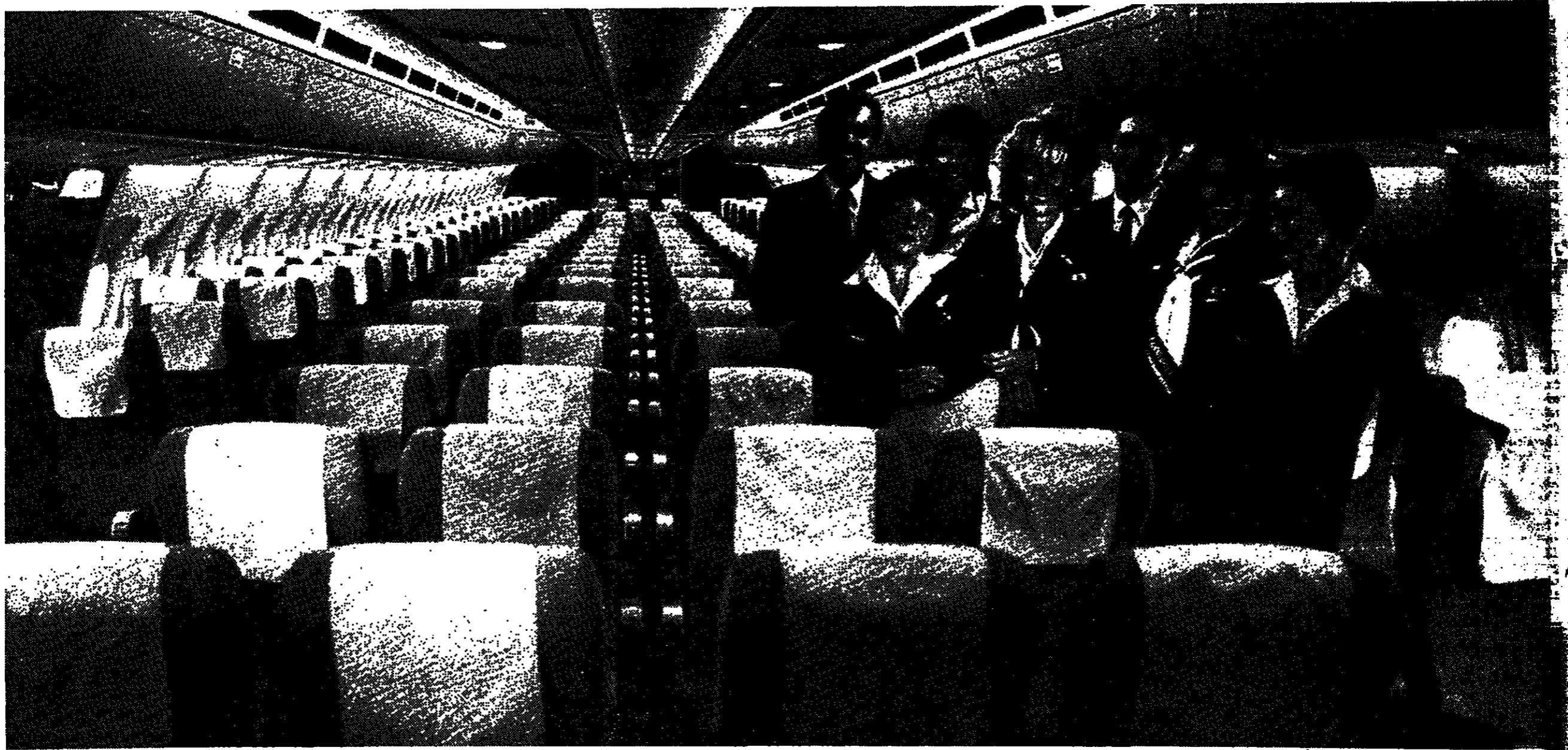
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matter what the time of day. If you'd like to know more about what Lufthansa is doing for today's business travellers we have a leaflet that contains all the details. Your copy has been reserved for you at: Lufthansa German Airlines, 10, Old Bond Street, London, W1X 4EN. Reference: Europe.



**Lufthansa**

# Precautions to keep you off the sick list

For at least 2,212 British overseas travellers, 1985 will be memorable as the year they disregarded medical advice, failed to take their anti-malarial pills and developed malaria after their return to Britain. Five died.

These figures do not include many more who developed malaria while still abroad. Nobody is immune - research shows that the victims are just as likely to have spent a lifetime in Africa or India as to be first-time visitors. A former senior steward of the Kenya Jockey Club is among those who have died recently.

Some protection can be afforded if patients' resistance is improved by planning a schedule which does not leave the travelling executive tired, jetlagged and hung over. Sleeping pills may be necessary to counteract time change, alcohol should be taken in very modest doses, particularly when flying, and time should be allowed for a visitor to adjust to a new country before having to work.

Travellers should stay in a hotel where they can have independence of action rather than with expatriate colleagues where they will have to impress as good guests by admiring the household and playing with the children.

The most common group of diseases caught abroad are the gastro-intestinal infections. Some are due to differing standards of hygiene, others to the presence of different strains of gut organisms from those found in Britain.

Whatever the underlying cause, they can deplete any delegation. In the early 1970s parliamentary delegations

spent, on average, a third of their time too frightened to leave the proximity of the bathroom.

The rules are straightforward. Avoid the local water supply, even when iced for gin and tonic or whisky. Choose cooked foods. Refuse all salads, cold meats and, above all, shellfish. If travellers' diarrhoea does strike, take Imodium or Lomolil straight away. Modern research shows that these drugs both clear the symptoms and shorten the attack.

Anti-typhoid injections are needed by visitors to nearly all destinations, including the Mediterranean coast, other than northern Europe and North America. To achieve a three-year protection two injections are needed a month apart. Injections separated by a shorter time are not as efficient.

Anti-paratyphoid A & B injections are unnecessary. Hygiene is more important than inoculation in cholera control, but some countries still demand it and it is recommended for the Indian sub-continent.

Polio drops are essential. Instances of polio caught abroad are still comparatively common and travellers should make certain that their protection is up to date. Many African and some of the northern South American countries require a certificate of vaccination against yellow fever. The injection lasts for 10 years.

Prophylaxis against malaria varies from one part of the world to another, so travellers should check the drugs needed by telephoning the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, which has a taped message detailing the required doses. The drugs Malaria, Chloroquine and Paludrine can be bought without prescription.

While in a malarial zone patients should use insect repellents, if possible sleep under a mosquito net, and keep their arms and legs covered between dusk and dawn.

A crucial point to realize is that the drugs must be taken three to four days before leaving and six weeks after return. The malaria parasite in the bloodstream is just as vigorous when the patient is back home in Norfolk or

Bedfordshire as it was when he was in a steamy jungle.

Protection from hepatitis A, the mildest form of hepatitis, is achieved by using gamma globulin. If given in Britain it is prepared by ethanol fractionation, the Cohn method, and there is absolutely no chance of catching Aids.

In some of the underdeveloped countries it is prepared in different, less reliable ways, and the injection should be avoided, as should any other injection if there is doubt as to the sterility of the needle.

Hepatitis B, and, associated with it, the delta virus, is one of the world's big killers. Anybody intending to work in the health services in the Third World should certainly have the injection and those who live in close proximity to the residents of countries

where it is endemic are recommended to consider it. Casual sexual intercourse has always been risky in underdeveloped countries because of hepatitis and other often drug-resistant, forms of sexually transmitted diseases. It is now lunacy in those parts of the world where Aids is rife.

Recent figures, for instance, suggest that 70 per cent of the prostitutes in Mombasa are infectious, and similar figures, if available, would apply to other cities in central Africa. It is only a matter of time before the disease is rampant among prostitutes all over the world.

It is also possible to have prophylactic injections against a few rarer conditions, including meningococcal meningitis, which is spread by the mosquito in certain parts of Japan and China, and tick-borne encephalitis in the Balkans and South Eastern Europe.



Last year, a businesswoman went to Spain, having taken out what she considered a comprehensive personal travel-insurance policy underwritten by Lloyd's. After completing her business, she spent a few days in a friend's villa near the coast.

While she was swimming in a nearby pool, the house, though securely locked, was broken into and her money and other valuables were stolen.

Further problems arose when she tried to claim her money back under the insurance. Despite a claim in large letters on the front of the policy that cash was covered up to £200, the small print on the reverse side stated that money was covered only if it was in a hotel safe or carried on one's person. The insurance company refused to pay.

A salutary tale, but one that illustrates the belief of the Association of British Insurers that, although few travellers these days depart without any insurance, many are either under-insured or have not taken out the right policy for their needs.

Finding the right level of insurance can be a problem for the independent business traveller. People travelling on behalf of large companies can expect to be sufficiently covered by their employers' corporate travel policy, but small business people and less frequent travellers will need to work out their own requirements.

Sadly, there is little advice on offer. Most travel agents display an ignorance of the subject.

Take the case of a man buying policy for travel to the United States. He decided to raise the medical cover from £100,000 to £250,000, an option with some policies, much against the advice of the travel agent, who could not believe anyone getting ill "as expensively as that".

Banks and insurance brokers are a better bet, because at



Keeping in touch: some BR trains have telephones for executives to make that vital call

travellers who intend to drive or hire a car abroad.

The personal-liability section of most policies excludes any claims arising from driving a vehicle. And since the insurance supplied by most car-rental firms is often inadequate, care should be taken.

When it comes to choosing a policy to take with you, it comes down to a comparison between price and cover. Be suspicious of the cover offered by credit and charge card companies for holidays or travel paid for on the card. The sums are rarely sufficient, and if a claim is made, would be deducted from sums payable on any other policy, which the cards advise you take out anyway.

If you normally take a number of trips during a year, it is worth looking at the new breed of annual policies developed specifically for business travellers, such as Bishopsgate "Business Care", Extrasure Worldwide and Supersure Worldwide. Some of them even include £1,000 hijack insurance.

Probably the best value is the annual policy offered by the American Express Centurion scheme. For £85, Centurion provides 12 months' medical insurance and Europ Assistance for the cardholder and any accompanying family up to £1 million, plus the usual benefit for delay, theft and personal liability.

If, on the other hand, you are looking for a one-off policy, it is advisable to compare the "time frames" on which the premiums are calculated. For a short trip, you will get better value from a policy where rates change every five days.

If you are going away for a week, choose a policy where the rate goes up after eight days, rather than on the seventh. Otherwise, just compare the extent of the cover with the cost of policy.

Deborah Benady  
Business Traveller

## Don't be a loser abroad

least, if pressed, they will come up with good advice. You do have to know what to ask for, though, and even so, most brokers will have only two or three stock policies, which are not always flexible.

The sensible traveller will cover himself for medical emergencies, for loss of personal possessions and personal liability, and also for cancellation and curtailment.

These days, according to the ABI, insufficient medical cover is rarely a problem. The lowest provision you will find is £100,000, and many policies offer as much as £1 million in cover. Although £100,000 sounds a lot, a spell in an American hospital would make short shrift of it. If you are travelling to the United States, it makes sense to take at least £250,000 worth of cover.

An increasingly common feature of travel-insurance policies is the access to emergency worldwide repatriation services, provided by companies such as Europ Assis-

tance, TransCare or Mondial Assistance.

About 7 per cent of all policies issued result in a claim, and of those, around half are for lost deposits. This applies more to holiday-makers than to business travellers, but it is important to make sure there is enough cover in your policy to pay for losses because of the cancellation or delay of a planned trip.

This is particularly important if you tend to travel on Apex or cut-price tickets, which require booking some time in advance and cannot be changed. The advice here is to make sure you take out your insurance early enough.

The other area in which business travellers can be caught out is for the loss or theft of money and baggage. It is worth bearing in mind that many packaged travel policies are designed mainly for holidaymakers, whose needs are different from those of the business traveller.

So the cover for loss of baggage is generally low - £1,000 is average but it can be

as little as £500 - and for cash it is around £100. A traveller on business is likely to be taking either samples or expensive equipment - cameras or computers, for instance - and may well find £1,000 insufficient. The sensible thing to do is to extend cover on valuable items on a temporary basis with the company that usually insures them.

Consider too the sum payable for personal accident or death, which usually amounts to no more than £15,000 on most policies. If you wish to insure for more than that, most companies will raise the sum for a small fee. The AA scheme allows an extension of the personal accident cover up to £75,000 for an extra £9.10.

Obvious though it may be, it is imperative to read the small print carefully. You may find yourself excluded because you are over 65, have a medical condition, are seven months pregnant, or have indulged in winter sports. One particular warning concerns

MAXIMUM COVER AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE (short stay, eight days)						
Company	Premium	Personal accident	Cancellation/curtailment	Illness	Loss or theft of money	Loss or theft of baggage
AA	£19.40	£5,000-£75,000	£3,000	£1 million	£250	£1,000
Thomas Cook	£27.00	£15,000	£1,000	Unlimited	£200	£1,000
Cornhill	£22.30	£15,000	£3,000	£500,000	£1,550 for money and luggage	
Lloyd's	£28.00	£15,000	£1,500	£1 million	£250	£1,000

MAXIMUM COVER AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE (annual policies)						
Company	Premium	Personal accident	Cancellation/curtailment	Illness	Loss or theft of money	Loss or theft of baggage
Centurion	£85	n/a	£2,000	£1 million	£500	£1,500
Bishopsgate "Business Care"	£180	£20,000	£2,000	£1 million	£500	£1,000
Extrasure Worldwide	£150	£50,000	£1,000	£100,000	£200	£1,000
Supersure Worldwide	£120	£15,000	£750	£100,000	£500	£1,000

\*Supersure is the policy recommended by ABTA

## Who can advise and who can help

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, WC1E 7HT, runs two invaluable services for the public. By telephoning 01-636 7921 it is possible to hear a resume of current anti-malarial precautions. A doctor is available to answer questions between 12 noon and 1pm.

The school has recently set up MASTA (The Medical Advisory Service for Travellers Abroad), which provides data for visitors to 230 different countries and summarizes the problems caused by 84 conditions and diseases which affect travelling. The risk involved in visiting any particular country is estimated differently, depending whether the traveller is going to a rural area, towns or tourist and capital city accommodation. It also makes allowance for his activities while there.

The health briefs are posted within 12 hours

of the bureau receiving an application form, obtainable from Boots or by telephoning 01-631 4408. Advice comes at three levels. The shortest, covering immunization and malaria, costs £4.75. The concise, which also includes advice on lifestyle while in the country and suggests drugs and appliances which the traveller may need, costs £9.50. A comprehensive service for £25 virtually provides an up-to-the-minute book which is ideal for those who are going to live abroad.

Immunization can be carried out by the Thomas Cook Centre, 45 Berkeley Street, London W1 (01-499 4000). It is open on weekdays from 8.30am to 5.30pm, but appointments are needed on Saturdays. The same service is provided by the British Airways Centre, 75 Regent Street, London W1 (01-439 9584).

Dr Thomas Stuttaford



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To find out more contact your insurance broker or local CU branch.

We think it could transform the way you look at business travel.

We won't make a drama out of a crisis.



## Get a jump on jet lag

Senior executives are walking off planes straight into boardrooms and making absurd decisions. Studies have now shown that apart from the debilitating effects of tiredness, jet lag is associated with lowered performance skills. The business executive could cost his or her company a fortune; the politician could cost his country a lot more.

Flying back and forth from east to west can aggravate the problem as changes in blood temperature, blood sugar and hormone levels, happening at different times, get mixed up.

The RAF Institute of Aviation Medicine is one of several organizations looking at jet lag, concentrating on the difficulties air crews experience in sleeping properly between flights. Though jet lag is caused by several factors, a lack of sleep is the main culprit.

Passengers can help ward off the worst effects of jet lag by responding to their inner clock. Whatever time they arrive, they should try to get some sleep immediately.

Travellers staying for several days should gradually adjust to local eating and sleeping times. Each 1-hour time zone throws the body's own clock out by a day. The solution becomes more complicated for those on short trips.

Soviet air crews flying to the US stick to Moscow time throughout. Even the clocks at the Aeroflot hotel in New York are on Moscow time.

A study now being carried out at the Harvard Medical School in Boston shows that the body's pacemaker is reset daily by light conditions: the sun in the morning and darkness at night. Bright light in measured doses can reset the body's internal clock.

The scientists believe that the use of light therapy can help jet-lagged travellers adjust to new time zones. Exposure to bright light at the appropriate time could tune the traveller's internal clock to the external clock at his or her destination before he sets out.

But jet lag is not the only hazard. A plane's low humidity often leads to dehydration. The answer: avoid alcohol, drink as much water as possible.

Jill Sherman

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days again  
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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22 1986

Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

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1591.2 (+1.0)  
Bargains  
25235  
USM (Datastream)  
125.0 (-0.54)  
THE POUND  
US Dollar  
1.4365 (+0.0070)  
W German mark  
2.8572 (+0.0154)  
Trade-weighted  
67.8 (+0.3)

# British Airways protected from foreign control

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

The privatization of British Airways took off yesterday with the announcement of first details of the sale including a loyalty bonus for long-term shareholders, an incentive scheme for the 39,000 employees and powers for the company to protect its "Britishness" in the event of over-enthusiastic foreign share ownership.

Mr Colin Marshall, chief executive of British Airways, said the company was more than ready for its shares to be offered to the public. The sale is expected to raise up to £1 billion and is scheduled for the end of January or early February next year. The company is anxious to build public awareness well in advance because the sale will follow both the £6 billion gas privatization and the Christmas spending period.

Shares will be payable in two instalments and there will be a loyalty bonus for initial buyers who retain their holdings for three years, with one new share for every 10 up to a

maximum of £5,000-worth, initially purchased. The share programme for the airline's staff will be broadly similar to that offered in the British Gas sale. Each employee will receive free shares worth £95, there will be a matching share arrangement of two free shares for every one purchased up to £150 and employees will be able to buy up to a further £2,000-worth of shares at a 10 per cent discount.

Up to 10 per cent of the equity will be reserved for priority applications from employees and British Airways pensioners. Mr David Bucks, of Hill Samuel, the merchant bank advising the Government, said: "We would like to generate up to one million applications from the general public."

A final decision on whether to sell shares abroad, and the allocations, will not be taken until closer to the sale but advisors have been appointed in the US, Switzerland, Japan

and Canada. Mr John Moore, the Transport Secretary, said that the total allocation to overseas markets would not exceed 20 per cent.

There will be special provisions in the articles of the company to protect its "Britishness" in the event that the board believed the level of foreign share ownership was endangering the operating licences which depend on British Airways being the national airline.

If foreign ownership exceeded a certain level — probably about 35 per cent — the board would have the power to disenfranchise shares and enforce their sale.

In addition, for a period of around five years, the maximum holding permitted by any shareholder, foreign or British, will be 15 per cent. As a result of imposing these restrictions the Government will not retain a "golden share".

Comment, page 27



Mr Michael Spicer, the Aviation Under-Secretary (second left), with Concorde crew yesterday. Picture: Leslie Lee.

## Benson to chair 600

Mr Jeff Benson, deputy chairman of the National Westminster Bank, is to be the new chairman of the 600 Group, the scrap metal and machine tool company. He replaces Sir Jack Wellings, aged 69, who yesterday announced his retirement on March 31 next year. Mr Benson, who joined the board three years ago, is the vice-chairman. Sir Jack joined the 600 Group board in 1963 and became chairman five years later, but has recently been criticized by shareholders over poor trading performances.

Appointments, page 31.

## Beazer bonus

As forecast at the time of the rights issue in September, pretax profits at C H Beazer for the year to June 30 rose 97 per cent to £31 million on turnover of £507 million. Earnings per share rose 15.5 per cent to 16.1p and the dividend was increased by 0.67p to 4.67p.

Tempus, page 27

## Low expands

Low & Bonar, the Dundee plastics, packaging, textiles and electronics group, is buying three electronics companies for between £40.7 million and £46 million. It will raise £39.2 million through a vendor placing with a 96 per cent clubback.

Tempus, page 27

## Profits 55% up

Underwoods, the London-based high street chemist, reported pretax profits up 55 per cent to £1 million on turnover up 23 per cent to £20.5 million for the six months to July 31. A first interim dividend of 1p net has been declared.

Tempus, page 27

## Profit setback

London & Provincial Shop Centres, the property company favoured for a takeover bid, saw pretax profits drop £1.23 million to £931,000 for the year to June 24. It forecasts that profits will recover to not less than £1.8 million. Net asset value rose 9p per share to 351p. Earnings per share are 3.41p, down 7.97p.

## Elbar accepts

Acceptance of the offer made on behalf of TI Securities for Elbar Industrial have been received for 97.98 per cent of shares. The offer has become unconditional.

## Pan sell-off

William Collins is selling its one-third stake in Pan Books to the other two shareholders, Octopus Publishing Group and Macmillan.

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## LGS firms less likely to collapse

By Derek Harris  
Industrial Editor

The failure rate for small businesses helped by the Government's Loan Guarantee Scheme (LGS) is improving. It had been one business in three, in line with experience throughout the small business sector, but the latest analyses for 1984-85 show that more than three businesses in four are succeeding.

This was announced yesterday by Mr David Trippier, Minister for Small Businesses at the Department of Employment, speaking at the International Small Business Congress in London.

Under LGS, the Government guarantees 70 per cent of loans advanced by banks to small businesses which, since the last Budget, have had to pay a reduced premium on interest repayments of 1.75 per cent net.

He said: "These are successful small firms generating wealth and employment at a relatively modest cost to the taxpayer and I believe the scheme has proved an outstanding success."

Employment was being created under the LGS at a cost of only £700 a job. The one-in-three failure rate in 1983 was itself an improvement on the better 1984 rate showed there was a discernible trend for more LGS-supported companies to be successful.

About half the businesses helped under LGS are start-ups.

Until changes in the last Budget the LGS was less popular with small businesses because of high interest premiums, and with banks, which had wanted longer-term government commitment to the scheme. The Government is now backing the latest version of the scheme for three years.

Applications had dropped to about 45 a month but by August this figure had reached 110 a month.

Mr Trippier is planning meetings round the country to persuade bank managers especially to be more positive in promoting the scheme.

## Opec meets again on Kuwait quota

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Oil ministers from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will meet today in an attempt to break the deadlock created by Kuwait's demand for an increased share of an already oversupplied market.

The majority of delegates still predicts that the meeting will end with an agreement to leave the present quota system in force until the end of the year, when it will be replaced by the system proposed by Kuwait which gives each country a fixed percentage share of any overall output ceiling set.

However, in the interim Kuwait has demanded a 10 per cent increase in its output. Most countries would agree to an increase of about 5 per cent.

The country is able to weather any oil price storm. Saudi Arabia, which supports Kuwait, is attempting to find a solution and its monarch, King Fahd, has intervened.

He has contacted the Kuwaiti oil minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa is a member of the ruling Al Sabah family — to try to find a solution.

Opec is now in the longest ministerial session in its 26 years. It met in London for 18 days in March 1983, but that meeting started as a committee session.

## Share-price fall marks Tokyo's week of woe

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Share prices in Tokyo fell sharply yesterday for the seventh consecutive trading day and the Nikkei-Dow average fell a further 317 points to 16,205.77.

The share index has plunged 15 per cent from its peak 10 weeks ago as pressure on company profits from the rise in the yen has reversed the previous financial boom.

Business has been thin in the past few days, reducing fears of a panic slump in prices, but it reflects government guidance against excessive speculative dealing.

Shares in financial houses, which raced ahead through the financial boom, have been hit hardest in the fall. Nomura Securities, the largest, has lost a quarter of its stock market value in just over a week, in spite of a forecast 80 per cent rise in pretax profits. Securities houses also face

## Gulf offers £750m for Calor Gas group

By John Bell  
City Editor

The New York oil and gas group Gulf Resources is making a £750 million takeover bid for Imperial Continental Gas, the company best known for its Calor Gas interests.

Gulf's move comes after months of speculation in the City with major share stakes being built up by David and Frederick Barclay, who own 34 per cent of Gulf, and the New Zealand entrepreneur Mr Ron Brierley.

Mr David Barclay, who sits on the Gulf board, said yesterday: "Gulf plans to inject new impetus and strategic direction into the group's top management and concentrate on the development and expansion of Calor Gas plus the upstream oil and gas interests."

Gulf attempted a market raid when the London Stock Exchange opened for business, offering to buy stock at 530p a share. The offer immediately moved beyond their buying price and the attempt was called off after 90 minutes.

The cash terms of 530p a share represent a 39 per cent premium over the price ruling before Gulf began to build up a stake in May this year. Gulf and others acting in concert have a stake of 10.6 per cent of IC Gas. On news of the approach, IC Gas shares soared to 553p.

Commenting on the offer, Gulf's president Mr Charles Klotz said: "We regard the offer as fair and generous. Shareholders are being offered a substantial bid premium over the price current before the latest round of bid speculation. In the light of the historic share price performance and the overall prospects for the company under its present management we believe that the shareholders are being offered a very fair deal."

The first City reaction to the bid last night was one of scepticism. "This may well be the first UK attempt at greenmail, with Gulf making a deliberately low offer to flush out a counter-offer from elsewhere," said one trader. A natural "White Knight" exists in the Belgian group Petrofina. IC Gas has a 7 per cent stake in Petrofina and three of its directors have a seat on the Petrofina board. The bid came as IC Gas directors were closeted in a management conference with senior staff.

The Barclay brothers are best known for the purchase of the Ellerman Lines group three years ago. No price was given at the time but it was widely believed to be in the region of £76 million. They own the Howard Hotel in London and the Cameron and Tollemache breweries which they acquired with Ellerman. The brothers have a reputation for secrecy.

## LCP fights £160m Ward White bid

By Cliff Feltham

Ward White, the fast expanding retail chain, faced a major battle last night after launching a hostile £160 million takeover bid for the industrial holdings group LCP.

Mr David Rhead, the LCP chairman, warned: "We will fight this bid. We don't need Ward White to tell us how to run our business."

Ward White, through a string of acquisitions, has built up a chain of more than 1,000 outlets in this country, including Payless, the DIY stores, Zodiac toy shops, Owen Owen department stores and the Halfords motor accessories business.

The bid would give it control of LCP's chain of 80 Whitlock specialist car part stores in the United States which account for more than half of the company's trading profits.

Mr Philip Birch, the acquisition chairman of Ward White, believes it can use the expertise it has gained with Halfords to expand the Whitlock business. "Whitlock is part of a \$70 billion-a-year market in the United States which has

## SE admits snags in network

By Richard Thomson  
Banking Correspondent

The Stock Exchange has conceded that its automated dealing system for the equity market may not be as perfect as it had claimed on Saturday, heightening concern over the City's ability to cope with Big Bang next Monday, according to market sources yesterday.

The Exchange has had to admit that the main network of Topic screens linked to its Stock Exchange Automated Quotations system, on which the new screen-based market depends, is slow in updating prices.

One leading market-maker estimated that it would cost each market participant around £250,000 to install extra equipment to speed up the process.

He said: "The network system of Topic is totally inadequate for SEAQ. At the moment the Stock Exchange's system is simply not credible and the Exchange has had to abandon the completely complacent view it held on Saturday."

A post-mortem examination on the weekend dress rehearsal produced a sharp difference of opinion between market-makers and the Stock Exchange over how well the system had worked.

The Topic network — screens linked to SEAQ on which dealers rely for price information — only updates prices every 30 seconds which dealers say is not fast enough. Individual prices can be updated more quickly, but that is inadequate, dealers said.

Big Bang countdown, page 27

## S Montagu censured

Samuel Montagu, merchant bank to Norton Opax, has been reprimanded by the Takeover Panel for a table it issued about McCorquodale's estimated underlying profits growth, and was told to correct its "arithmetic misstatement".

Montagu has accepted the table made assumptions about McCorquodale's associates profits which differed from the information in the back of the same circular.

Montagu has had to raise its estimate of McCorquodale's underlying growth to 17.3 per cent in 1985-6 from 10.3 per cent, and to 23.7 per cent in 1986-7 from only 1.3 per cent.

Late starter, page 27

### MARKET SUMMARY

#### STOCK MARKETS

New York 1802.73 (-8.29)  
Dow Jones 1802.73 (-8.29)  
Tokyo 16205.77 (-317.80)  
Nikkei Dow 16205.77 (-317.80)  
Hong Kong 2238.29 (+10.53)  
Amsterdam Gen 272.0 (-2.7)  
Sydney AO 1372.4 (+11.7)  
Frankfurt 1951.0 (+16.2)  
Buenos Aires 3624.34 (-7.90)  
Paris CAC 366.5 (+0.2)  
Zurich 532.50 (+2.0)  
S&A General 532.50 (+2.0)  
London closing prices Page 29

#### INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 11%  
3-month Interbank 11%  
3-month eligible bills 10%  
tying rate  
US Prime Rate 7%  
Federal Funds 5 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bills 5.30-5.28%  
30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 1/4%

#### CURRENCIES

London: £ \$1.4365  
New York: \$ £1.4370  
S. DM 2.8572  
S. DM 2.8572  
S. DM 2.8572  
S. DM 2.8572  
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S. DM 2.8572  
S. DM 2.8572  
S. DM 2.8572  
S. DM 2.8572

#### MAIN PRICE CHANGES

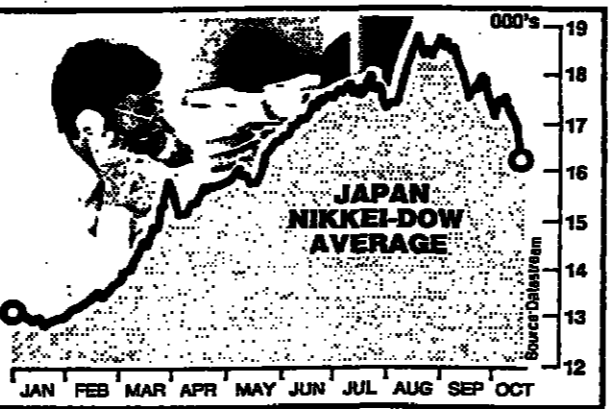
RISERS:  
British Petroleum 678p (+15p)  
Britoil 143p (+10p)  
Shell 823p (+13p)  
I.C. Gas 530p (+25p)  
South Industries 178p (+20p)  
Tibury 178p (+10p)  
North Brit. Steel 53p (+18p)  
LCP Holdings 185p (+47p)  
FALLS:  
Hawker Siddeley 445p (-5p)  
Crown House 185p (-8p)  
Diploma 186p (-9p)  
Prestwick Hlds. 38p (-11p)  
Lax Service 307p (-12p)  
Norton Opax 58p (-12p)  
Low & Bonar 248p (-15p)  
Ward White Group 310p (-20p)  
French Connection 200p (-40p)  
Tay Homes 153p (-20p)  
Win. Sinclair 200p (-10p)  
Scanro 100p (-8p)

#### GOLD

London Fixing AM \$425.80 pm \$425.10  
Close \$425.00-425.50 (\$296.75-297.25)  
New York Comex \$425.00-425.50

#### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec.) pm \$14.95 (\$14.65)  
Denmark latest trading price



## Best staff risk redundancy

By Sally Watts

Companies may be selecting some of their best staff for redundancy because intelligent managers often lack survival skills, according to a report published today. The survey by Cranfield School of Management, which compares the characteristics of employed and unemployed managers, shows that redundant managers are much more intelligent, imaginative and unconventional. They are also calmer, more venturesome, less tense and less inhibited.

However their score in political and interpersonal skills is low, and shows them to be more trusting and naive and less self-critical. The report, commissioned by Pauline Hyde & Associates, a personnel consultancy with offices in London, Birmingham, Glasgow and Dublin, was based on the personality profiles of 204 redundant executives, aged between 32 and 60. Forty were chief executives or general managers. All have found new, and in some cases, better jobs. Dr Shann Tyson, who headed the study, said: "These executives were typically not organization men. They were much more independent-minded, conscientious, imaginative and unconventional, but survival at a time of redundancy requires

the capacity to be socially aware, political and street wise. "If organizations are selecting for redundancy those managers who do not conform, the cost to them is the loss of energetic, imaginative, creative people." Pauline Hyde believes Cranfield's findings will be useful not only to organizations selecting staff for redundancy, but also to those grooming people for top jobs. The "N Factor in Executive Survival: Summary of a Report on the Personality Characteristics of Redundant Executives, published by Cranfield School of Management, £5.95.



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The four who lit the Big Bang fuse

# A monopoly broken by a series of accidents



By John Hollis

Big Bang is the shorthand term for the revolution taking place in the British financial services industry. More accurately it applies to the changes taking place in the Stock Exchange on Monday.

These are the abolition of fixed minimum commissions charged by stockbrokers and the abolition of "single capacity" — the separation of the role of dealing as an agent for clients (stockbroking) from the role of dealing as a principal for one's own account (stockjobbing). The Stock Exchange Council decided that these changes would take effect on one day rather than being phased in over a period — hence the term Big Bang.

From the wealth of comment and analysis spread over acres of newspaper during the last couple of years, you might suppose that today sees the culmination of a carefully prepared scheme of events planned and designed by those in authority to reform and modernize the securities business within the United Kingdom.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The structure that will emerge in two to three years' time, when the dust has settled, will be the product of the accidental collision of three quite separate streams of events, which in origin and purpose were quite unrelated. The first source of change



was the decision by Mr Edward Heath's Conservative Government to extend the remit of the Office of Fair Trading to cover the provision of services as well as the supply of goods. The upshot was a report by the OFT deploring the lack of competition in service industries and the professions, evidenced by stockbrokers and the professions not being allowed to advertise.

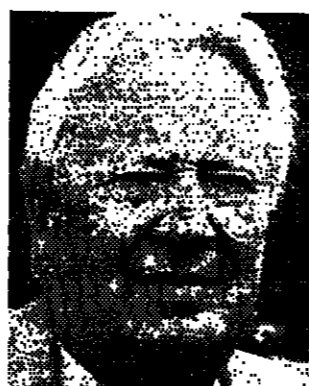
As far as the Stock Exchange was concerned, under its then chairman, Sir Martin Wilkinson, the central issue was nearly side-stepped when the rules were changed to allow brokers to advertise. Almost none chose to do so, arguing that advertising would only attract the sort of clientele they were anxious to avoid.

In the event, it was not enough to shoot the OFT's first fox. After a change of government, the OFT returned to the chase. It produced a formal case that the whole Stock Exchange Rule Book should be examined and that the Exchange should be required to justify its then current practice before the Restrictive Practices Court.

Two in particular were identified as restricting competition: the minimum commission rule and barriers against the admission to membership of the Exchange. This was a far more serious



Clockwise from top left: Cecil Parkinson, a hope that did not survive; Edward Heath, power to the OFT; Sir Nicholas Goodison, he had an agreement; Professor Laurence Gower he became a one-man commission on investor protection



challenge, striking at the root of the Stock Exchange's *de facto* monopoly of trading securities in Britain.

Neither the Office of Fair Trading nor anyone else seems at any stage to have appreciated the true core of the Stock Exchange monopoly.

This was (and still is) the special privilege, granted in the Finance Act of 1920, to jobbing firms, recognized as such by the Stock Exchange, to pay 50p transfer stamp duty only when taking up purchases of stock. Under Stock Exchange rules access to this privileged group of traders was possible only through the medium of a Stock Exchange member broker.

If this concessionary stamp duty privilege had been available to dealers outside the Stock Exchange, others such as merchant banks could have blown open the Stock Exchange monopoly years ago by offering dealing facilities to all comers.

The long-standing awareness of this fundamental fact injected caution into the annual pre-Budget representations made by the Stock Exchange to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. To have abolished stamp duty on the transfer of securities would have automatically opened the Stock Exchange and its jobbers to unrestricted competition.

The Office of Fair Trading, not perceiving this truth, chose to press its case through the more tortuous process of law.

The Stock Exchange protested that this was not an appropriate method of going about things not least because the Restrictive Practices Court, while empowered to ban practices which it found objectionable, had no duty to propose or design improved practices to take their place.

The existing complex and interlocking Rule Book might have to be discarded and no new set of rules put in its place.

With the return of the Conservative Government in 1979, the Stock Exchange lobbied energetically for the withdrawal of the Restrictive Practices case.

Not until the second Thatcher Government was elected in 1983 did it receive a response. In July of that year, in return for the Stock Exchange's agreement to abolish minimum commission rates within three years, Mr Cecil Parkinson, then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, agreed the legal action under the Restrictive Practices Act.

When Mr Parkinson told Parliament about his agreement with Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, he said he hoped that the abolition of minimum commissions would not necessarily end the separation of jobbing from agency broking.

It was a hope that barely survived Mr Parkinson's brief tenure of office.

The separation of function of broker and jobber, so distinctive a feature of the London market, in fact dated only from 1908. Minimum commissions were introduced about 18 months later to



defend "single capacity" by preventing the newly purified jobbers to direct business through complacent brokers to their erstwhile clients and counterparties on privileged terms.

One rule could not survive without the other. From this point, the abolition of mini-

mum commissions, which comes into effect next Monday, inevitably involved the simultaneous abolition of single capacity trading.

The second stream of events leading to the new order has its origins in the development of the Euromarkets which have led to many foreign investment and commercial banks establishing themselves in London.

This stream was swollen by the abolition of British exchange control in 1979. Initially, freedom from controls over the movement of capital was greeted with delight within the London Stock Exchange. It would give member firms the opportunity they craved to develop their business for British clients in overseas stocks. Foreign brokers, already in London for Euromarket dealings, saw the same opportunity. The Americans, in particular, untrammelled since 1975 by set minimum commission rates, seized the opportunity to develop equity business for British institutions in overseas markets.

Shortly afterwards, the American courts delivered several judgments which indicated that American fiduciary investing institutions failing to seek investment opportunities abroad were negligent. Previously, the received wisdom was that it would be rash and imprudent to look outside the American market.

After many years of investment isolationism, American investors began to wake up to the rest of the world and the opportunities it provided. Again the American investment houses, through their London offices, were ideally placed to take advantage of this change. As a result British brokers, handicapped by the obligation to charge fixed minimum commissions, came under increased competition from foreign houses, even on their home ground.

The London Stock Exchange was forced to a decision — if you cannot beat them, let them join you. Foreign brokers, banks and institutions were admitted as members of the London market. So, too, were British institutions which previously had figured in the market only as clients.

The whole process has been greatly accelerated by the introduction of electronic means of disseminating information, orders and confirmations and the imminent approach of new systems which will allow execution of the mass of routine market transactions without human intervention beyond the pressing of a key.

The third stream of events is not yet fully in play, though it is already causing eddies and whirlpools.

It originated in the appointment, by the Department of

Trade and Industry, of Professor Laurence "Jim" Gower as a one-man commission to report on the system of investor protection in the United Kingdom. The comparatively minor scandals that gave rise to Professor Gower's appointment were nothing to do with the stock market as such — they arose in areas of fringe investment over which the Government was directly, if ineffectively, responsible.

The result has been an increasingly tardid flow of recommendations, proposals, draft legislation, amendments, further consultations and yet further amendments that should coalesce in the Financial Services Act. When this happens, House of Lords and the Labour party willing, Parliament will be asked to approve a delegation order transferring the powers so laboriously accumulated by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to the Securities and Investments Board under Sir Kenneth Berrill. It will be his task to knock together the last parts of the new framework for investor protection, give a lick of paint to the superstructure, tune the engines, and set sail downstream.

Already the Stock Exchange and others concerned with the management and operation of markets in investments have had to take account of the new design, as it emerges, in making their own plans. Although not strictly part of the Big Bang, the new supervisory regime has had profound effects — and it is important to realise that today's explosion has occurred without regard for the impending regulatory legislation.

If the House of Lords, overwhelmed by countless new amendments of an ever more complex nature, refuses or fails to pass the Financial Services Bill, minimum commissions will not be re-imposed nor will there be any sudden separation of the jobbers and brokers trading in harness on Monday for the first time for 80 years.

Oddly enough, when the new paraphernalia of legislation and SIB rules come into full effect next summer the result may be to reverse and to constrain the new freedom of action within the Stock Market.

When Professor Gower drew up his report, the checks and balances of the separation of function between brokers and jobbers were still in full force. The legislation based on his report will come into effect in quite a different environment. Let no-one pretend that this is the consequence of a carefully designed plan.

Even within the narrower field of the stock market, much of what is happening today is the product of a combination of events and pressures which were foreseen only dimly by those involved. The Big Bang is the result of economic forces moving to fill a vacuum and of competing ambitions colliding and locking together to form a ramshackle (though it is hoped stable) framework.

The outcome is that the Stock Exchange has, in essence, reverted to the form of dealing in use in the 19th century. Thanks to the new information technology, the system now embraces many more securities and many more investors than was possible 100 years ago.

To be fair it is also the system already in use in the Euromarkets in the American over-the-counter market (National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation) both of which are also based on electronic information systems.

The author, a director of Dewe Rogerson, is expressing his own views.

## Silentnight recovers

Silentnight Holdings, the bed and furniture makers, made pretax profits in the six months to August 2 of £1.43 million compared with a previous first-half loss of £820,000. Turnover rose 23.7 per cent to £39.6 million.

By the year end it will have added eight stores. It is also spending £750,000 on refinements, all to be paid for out of cash flow, leaving the company with no net debt at the year end.

But assuming it makes £3.2 million pretax for the year as a whole, the shares are still on a multiple of more than 20. And a 20 to 25 per cent increase in 1987 with a slightly higher tax charge still implies a 17 times multiple on a two-year view.

The company has declared its first interim dividend of 1p and intends to pay not less than 2.5p net for the year. The prospective yield is therefore a mere 2 per cent gross.

Everything has its price and there is no need to rush out and buy Underwoods.

## COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

# Financial Bill leaves the arguments raging

The House of Lords has managed to dig through the mountains of amendments needed to complete the report stage of the Financial Services Bill, but even that has left a number of thorny issues unresolved. In Parliament, there is likely to be some unusual argument over detail at the third reading stage in the House of Lords and then the Commons has to review the amendments at speed.

Much of the real argument will now transfer to detailed negotiations over rules between the Securities and Investments Board and the various industry interests represented in the self-regulatory organizations.

The Stock Exchange, for instance, remains deeply unhappy about the proposals for a joint industry-wide compensation fund to pay investors in the event of failures among financial services firms. The objections are substantial. The Stock Exchange has traditionally put no limit on compensation. From Monday, there will be a £250,000 limit — applying to all clients. But to spread the net wide and persuade all to join the universal scheme, there may now have to be a much smaller upper limit on compensation, applying only to private clients.

This clearly represents a dilution in protection for investors on the Stock Exchange, and particularly large investors, as a result of measures supposed to increase protection elsewhere. The principle, it appears, has now been lost. The argument is over the actual monetary limit on compensation, which The SIB wants to pitch as low as £30,000. The Stock Exchange would be right to press for a higher figure — at least in six figures, although that would not meet its principled objection. If such a limit were to prove unacceptably expensive, it would imply that Stock Exchange firms were supporting others regulated by organizations that adopt lower standards — in the real sense that their members are more likely to go bust.

The battle over the polarization of banks and building societies' role as insurance and investment brokers will also now go to the SIB. In the Lords, Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, the Lord Advocate, succeeded in having a bank-supported amendment withdrawn on the understanding that the matter was subject only to an SIB discussion document rather than a firm proposal. So everything is to be negotiated.

The issue is apparently simple. Should the banks continue to be allowed to sell their own products — such as unit trusts — and also advise as apparently objective brokers, or must they choose between the two? The argument focuses, however, on a paradox. The increased mixing of functions is a strong feature of Big Bang. But the separation of functions forms a key element of the original plan for investor protection in the hitherto murky world of retail life assurance broking.

There have been far too many

brokers who pose as giving independent advice but actually try to sell the same favoured product to investors regardless of their need. The banks argue that they are not like that. Yet bank managers are under the same pressures as anyone else. It is perfectly true that within their Stock Exchange operations, the new conglomerates will be allowed to rely on disclosure to accommodate the dual roles of principal and agent. But it would be no great loss for the banks to choose at the retail level for the greater general protection of small investors

## Marketing Airways

The Government's privatization programme proceeds apace. The late autumn will be illuminated by the huge British Gas issue and the early weeks of the New Year will witness the much delayed take-off of British Airways.

The hardened stock market operator and the political cynic would argue that it is just a question of price. But that is by no means the whole story. For those with some experience of share buying, an offer price that promises a quick profit might be enough. In the cause of wider share ownership, among the public at large and among employees, the price of the stock is demonstrably not enough. All the big privatization issues, and some of the smaller ones, have had to be marketed: special terms for employees and customers, expensive advertising campaigns and diligent public relations.

The hype has worked. So well, in fact, that some of the shrewd practitioners who have been involved say they are alarmed at the ease with which shares have been sold to millions of people who can have no conception of the realities of equity investment.

The British Airways issue will be an interesting test. It may be the world's favourite airline and a company to which people can easily relate, but its profitability and prospects in a fiercely competitive and cyclical international market will always raise questions in investors' minds. The inducements to buy at the time of the flotation, for BA employees and members of the public alike, are tantalising. The marketing promises to be thorough and the price, when it is finally fixed, will be tempting, in the market conditions of the time.

But how will the stock market look in January-February? No one can possibly have the answer. What is true is the Government will do all within its power to try to ensure that it is behaving itself. A revival in its political fortunes as measured by the public opinion polls (starting today?) would help enormously. Together with a continuation of the Chancellor's relaxed attitude to the excessive increase in the money supply. As long as the supply of broad money (sterling M3) in the system is rising faster than gross domestic product, money will find its way into the stock market

## News background

# Late starter behind Ward White's rise and rise

The swoop on LCP Holdings, the car parts retailer and investment group, adds yet another chapter to the remarkable growth story of Ward White, once a sleepy Northamptonshire shoe maker and now on the threshold of becoming a major international trading group.

Mr Philip Birch, the Ward White chairman, once admitted he was a late starter in the takeover field. He has been making up for lost time so fast that the City has hardly been able to catch its breath after one deal before another is immediately lined up.

He came to Ward White in 1967 as a consultant and after helping it through loss-making years made the all-important decision in the early 1980s to concentrate on retailing rather than manufacturing. This heralded a breakneck pace of expansion, creating a vast chain of almost 900 stores throughout Britain and several hundred others in the United States, ranging from shoes to car parts, DIY and toys.

Mr Birch first made the



Philip Birch: a long way from running shoe shops

stock market take notice when he paid Burmah £52 million for Halfords, the motor accessories chain, later pumping the failed Motorist Discount Centre chain into the business.

Last year, he made two more crucial acquisitions, paying £53 million for the Owen Owen department store group, and £19 million for the Zodiac toy shops business.

Mr Birch claimed that Ward White could only improve the chain of 21 Owen Owen stores. Its sales per square foot

were £108 compared with £155 for Debenhams and £450 for Marks and Spencer.

Some people questioned whether he had the expertise to operate big city stores. "People used to say all we knew about was running shoe shops. I think we have shown we can do more than that."

His determination to break into the DIY market led him to his next major deal — the acquisition of the chain of 65 Payless outlets for £94 million.

But Mr Birch has always been keen to spread his wings in the United States where he has the Hothelmer shoe chain, based in Virginia. LCP, through its Whitlock group, sells car parts to Americans as Halfords does at home, and would be a logical extension of Ward White's ambitions.

In three years, the stock market value of Ward White has gone up from under £40 million to more than £300 million. But one thing is clear. Even if Mr Birch fails in his latest takeover, it will not be the last.

Cliff Feltham

## TEMPUS

# Shadow over Beazer's glitter

Things have not been going well for CH Beazer, the housebuilding and construction group, since it announced its plans for the £190 million acquisition of Gifford Hill & Company Inc in the United States, to be paid for by a 2 for 3 rights issue.

The rights issue, pitched at 180p last September when the share price was 220p, seemed safe enough at the time. But the threat of rising interest rates has returned to haunt the construction business, causing the sector to weaken. And Beazer's shareholders have reservations about the wisdom of this move into the US.

Beazer had long been looking for an opportunity to expand into building materials in the United Kingdom. It failed — but found one in the United States in the cement and aggregates group, Gifford Hill.

Gifford had experienced difficulties but in the last two years has been turned round by the present management. Beazer is paying an exit multiple of between 10 and 11 times earnings, making some earnings dilution inevitable.

As the group's results for the year to June 30 show, Beazer is chalking up spectacular gains at the pre-tax level. Yesterday's announcement showed a near doubling from last year's £15.8 million to £31.1 million as was forecast at the time of the rights issue.

The main growth area was housebuilding, where profits were up an estimated 60 per cent to £21 million. Of this, about 25 per cent was organic

growth, the balance was the result of acquisitions.

The contracting side contributed an estimated £9.5 million, most of which is attributable to the first 5% months contribution from French Keir.

Increases at the earnings per share level are less spectacular but still an impressive 15.5 per cent up to 16.1p a share fully diluted. With Gifford Hill 1986-7 pretax profits should leap to £70 million, allowing earnings to rise to 19p.

At the current price of 180p (also the rights issue price) the shares are on a prospective multiple of about 9.5 times. If the market becomes more sceptical of Beazer's ability to grow earnings faster by making acquisitions than through organic growth (witness housebuilding's 25 per cent growth) the group's premium rating may be whittled away.

Add to that the risks attendant on expansion in the United States, a veritable graveyard for unwary British companies, and the distinct possibility arises that a substantial chunk of the new shares could be left with the underwriters.

## Low & Bonar

Low & Bonar's hectic restructuring and expansion programme burst into life again yesterday with three acquisitions worth up to a maximum £46 million.

After a £33 million spend in the first half of four packaging and plastics companies, the addition of the latest three electronics firms

achieves Bonar's goal of reaching sufficient critical mass in its four chosen divisions. Shareholders can now expect a bit of a breather.

The acquisitions are Powertec in California, for £43.8 million (£30.6 million), and the British companies, Advance Power Supplies for between £8 million and £10.6 million, and Advance Bryans Instruments for between £1.6 million and £4.8 million, depending on future profits.

The power supply and instrumentation activities of Bonar will be greatly strengthened by the additions.

Powertec, which supplies customers in computers, telecommunications, medical equipment and control and office systems, is suffering from a profits hiccup. Unexpected losses from an acquisition depressed profits to \$2.5 million in the nine months to the end of July.

Annual profits are usually about the \$5 million mark and are expected to recover to at least this level next year. The exit p/e ratio at that level is a reasonable 14 times.

Powertec will push up the proportion of Bonar's profits from North America to nearly 45 per cent, which is high enough for the company. Low & Bonar has chosen the now conventional vendor placing with clawback route as its funding method. However, it has not conditionally placed with institutions the 16.7 million shares, or 96 per cent available to shareholders. Instead Robert Fleming, the merchant bank, has underwritten the shares.

The rights offer, as the

issue is termed, is available on a minimum two for seven basis at 225p.

Bonar's shares have had an excellent run from a low of 163p this year to a high at 263p. The 17p slip yesterday from the peaks to 246p should only be short-term.

## Underwoods

The initial rupture which greeted Underwoods' market debut has left the high street chemist with a share price which it is still trying to live up to.

Not that there is anything wrong with the business. Quite the opposite, as yesterday's interim results show. Pretax profits for the six months to July 31 rose 55 per cent to £1 million on turnover up 23 per cent to £20.5 million.

By the year end it will have added eight stores. It is also spending £750,000 on refinements, all to be paid for out of cash flow, leaving the company with no net debt at the year end.

But assuming it makes £3.2 million pretax for the year as a whole, the shares are still on a multiple of more than 20. And a 20 to 25 per cent increase in 1987 with a slightly higher tax charge still implies a 17 times multiple on a two-year view.

The company has declared its first interim dividend of 1p and intends to pay not less than 2.5p net for the year. The prospective yield is therefore a mere 2 per cent gross.

Everything has its price and there is no need to rush out and buy Underwoods.

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### Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Elron	Industrials E-K	...
2	Metal Box	Industrials E-K	...
3	Greenall Whinny	Industrials E-K	...
4	Fronis	Industrials E-K	...
5	Metal Closures	Industrials E-K	...
6	Br Car Auctions	Motor/Aircraft	...
7	Rothland	Building/Roads	...
8	Lawrence (Water)	Building/Roads	...
9	Hickson	Chemicals/Fins	...
10	Ashley (Lana)	Drapery/Stores	...
11	ML Hids	Industrials E-K	...
12	Blue Circle	Industrials E-K	...
13	Ukinfield Lawrence	Motor/Aircraft	...
14	Tarmac	Building/Roads	...
15	Chide	Oil	...
16	Tesco	Food	...
17	Treacrol	Oil	...
18	Stacten	Property	...
19	Essexware Rentals	Electricals	...
20	Macarby	Industrials E-K	...
21	Hunting Group	Industrials E-K	...
22	Lionds	Bank/Discount	...
23	Sandhurst	Industrials E-K	...
24	Egon Trust	Property	...
25	Rotork	Industrials E-K	...
26	Hanson	Industrials E-K	...
27	Chrestes Int	Industrials A-D	...
28	Goat Pet	Oil	...
29	IBL	Electricals	...
30	Young (H)	Industrials S-Z	...
31	Garton Eng	Industrials E-K	...
32	Rothmans 'B'	Tobacco	...
33	European Ferries	Industrials E-K	...
34	Bechtel	Industrials A-D	...
35	Allied Text	Textiles	...
36	ASDA-MFI	Food	...
37	Br Vita	Industrials A-D	...
38	ROC	Industrials A-D	...
39	APV	Industrials A-D	...
40	Davis & Met 'A'	Industrials A-D	...
41	Third Milk	Industrials S-Z	...
42	Whitecroft	Industrials S-Z	...
43	Targa	Oil	...
44	Hannan	Industrials E-K	...

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

UNDATED

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

INDEX-LINKED

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Shares mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on October 13. Dealings end on Friday. Contango day October 27. Settlement day November 3. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

### BREWERIES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### BUILDINGS AND ROADS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### FINANCE AND LAND

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### FOODS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### E-K

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### INSURANCE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### LEISURE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### MINING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### PROPERTY

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### CINEMAS AND TV

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### HOTELS AND CATERERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### INDUSTRIALS A-D

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### L-R

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### SHIPPING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### SHOES AND LEATHER

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### TEXTILES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### DRAPERY AND STORES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### ELECTRICALS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### S-Z

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	%	Div	Yield

### OIL

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# Flats and golf in a package for Brits

By Diana Wildman

The optimism of the developer still keen to build along Spain's Costa del Sol seemingly has no bounds. In spite of what appears to be a saturated leisure home market, there is no shortage of new schemes being built, aimed at the British buyer who currently accounts for 80 per cent of all second-home purchases in the region.

Increasingly, purchasers are committing themselves to mortgage agreements to fund their investment overseas and, as the sums of money involved can be high, it is essential to use a totally sound source of finance. Anyone borrowing privately through the developer should have professional advice to ensure the payments will be properly registered and that an independent solicitor checks the legalities of the agreement.

The high street banks in this country will all consider the idea of a personal loan, subject to individual assessment to finance an overseas purchase. This will usually be repayable over 10 years at anything between 3 and 6 per cent over the base rate.

The banks do, however, require UK collateral, either in the form of house deeds, stocks and shares, or insurance policies. Barclays, Lloyds, the Midland and National Westminster all stress that a loan will be granted only at the bank manager's discretion, provided their criteria are met.



On the beach: Sunley Holdings' El Rey apartment block at Fuengirola

Mediteranean and is overshadowed by the ruins of a 10th-century castle built by the Knights Templar, now a national monument. On a most practical note, Malaga airport is just 20 minutes' away and all the holiday facilities of Fuengirola are within walking distance.

The apartments themselves are all similar. The two-bedroom homes all have two bathrooms, a large fully-fitted kitchen and breakfast room and an L-shaped large reception opening on to a spacious terrace - all of which have sea views. The three-bedroom units have a small open-plan kitchen incorporated within the reception room as the third bedroom takes the place of the kitchen.

The half-dozen show flats are designed by Mountcurzon Interiors, of Mayfair, which, by judicious use of fabric and furniture, has successfully conveyed impressions of style ranging from a straightforward holiday flat to sumptuous apartment living.

Mountcurzon's John Law says: "We have planned three standard packages costing £7,500, £10,000 and £12,500 but obviously can suit a client's individual requirements."

Sunley Holdings' chairman, John Sunley, is offering a practical financial package to purchasers. First, service charges will be fixed, until November 1988, at about £650 a year, with any excess being subsidized by the developer. Secondly, Mr Sunley has organized lines of finance through five different banks. One most attractive deal appears to be his arrangement with Lloyds Bank in Gibraltar whereby a sterling loan of up to 75 per cent of the value of the property can be borrowed over 15 years at 12.5 per cent.

Fifty-seven two-bedroom and three-bedroom apartments are for sale through Chestertons at prices ranging from £55,000 to £84,000.

● Details: Chestertons Overseas, 116

Kensington High Street, London W8 7RW (01-937 7244).

Timeshare ownership, which includes access to a championship golf course, is growing in appeal to the avid golfer, keen to play the same course during his fixed annual holiday but not requiring the total commitment of a second home.

Gulf Leisure International, one of the UK's firmly established timeshare companies, is now selling the last 140 or so weeks, out of a total of more than 900, at Marbella Fairways, a tranquil development of 18 two-bedroom three-bedroom villas grouped around a swimming pool, all overlooking the 14th fairway of the Aloha course at Nueva Andalucia, near Puerto Banus.

Weeks range from £3,950 to £7,300 and the price includes membership for up to five people who are entitled to unlimited use of the Aloha Golf Club during their annual week's occupancy. The annual service charge of £150 a week owned includes all upkeep at Marbella Fairways, including golf club charges.

Barclaytrust International is the trustee of Marbella Fairways, which is affiliated to the exchange organization RCI, where the weeks are sold on the basis of a 20-year right to use. Then Barclaytrust International will sell the properties, all of which have a share in the Aloha Golf Club and the net proceeds will be distributed proportionately.

Gulf Leisure has established a line of credit with the Royal Bank of Scotland who will lend up to 90 per cent of the value of the week, which is taken as collateral, repayable over 10 years.

● Details: Gulf Leisure International plc, Broome Park Estate, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6QX (0227 831701).

## Views of the Med and a 10th-century castle

Sunley Holdings, which has net assets of more than £50 million, has just completed its first Spanish residential scheme. It is known as El Rey and a stylish modern washbasin block of 80 two-bedroom and three-bedroom apartments in Fuengirola.

The facilities include a swimming pool and a gymnasium, complete with sauna, while golfers are offered half-price membership at the nearby Mijas Golf Club, which has two 18-hole courses designed by Robert Trent-Jones.

The apartments at El Rey offer a very practical concept of holiday living. Security is paramount. The large reception area will be manned 24 hours a day, there is a flat for a resident porter, video entryphones and steel-lined front doors are standard, and window grilles abound.

The block literally adjoins the beach, and although Fuengirola is not a pretty town, with high-rise blocks predominating, El Rey has lovely views towards the

## Proceeds will be shared out proportionately

up to five people who are entitled to unlimited use of the Aloha Golf Club during their annual week's occupancy. The annual service charge of £150 a week owned includes all upkeep at Marbella Fairways, including golf club charges.

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### WELLESLEY RD CHISWICK, W4

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### WELLESLEY RD CHISWICK, W4

Exceptional Victorian residence, 4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 offices, 2 study, 2 dining rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 breakfast rooms, 2 terraces, 2 garages, 2 carports, 200 sq ft garden. £1,200,000.

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Exceptional Victorian residence, 4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 offices, 2 study, 2 dining rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 breakfast rooms, 2 terraces, 2 garages, 2 carports, 200 sq ft garden. £1,200,000.

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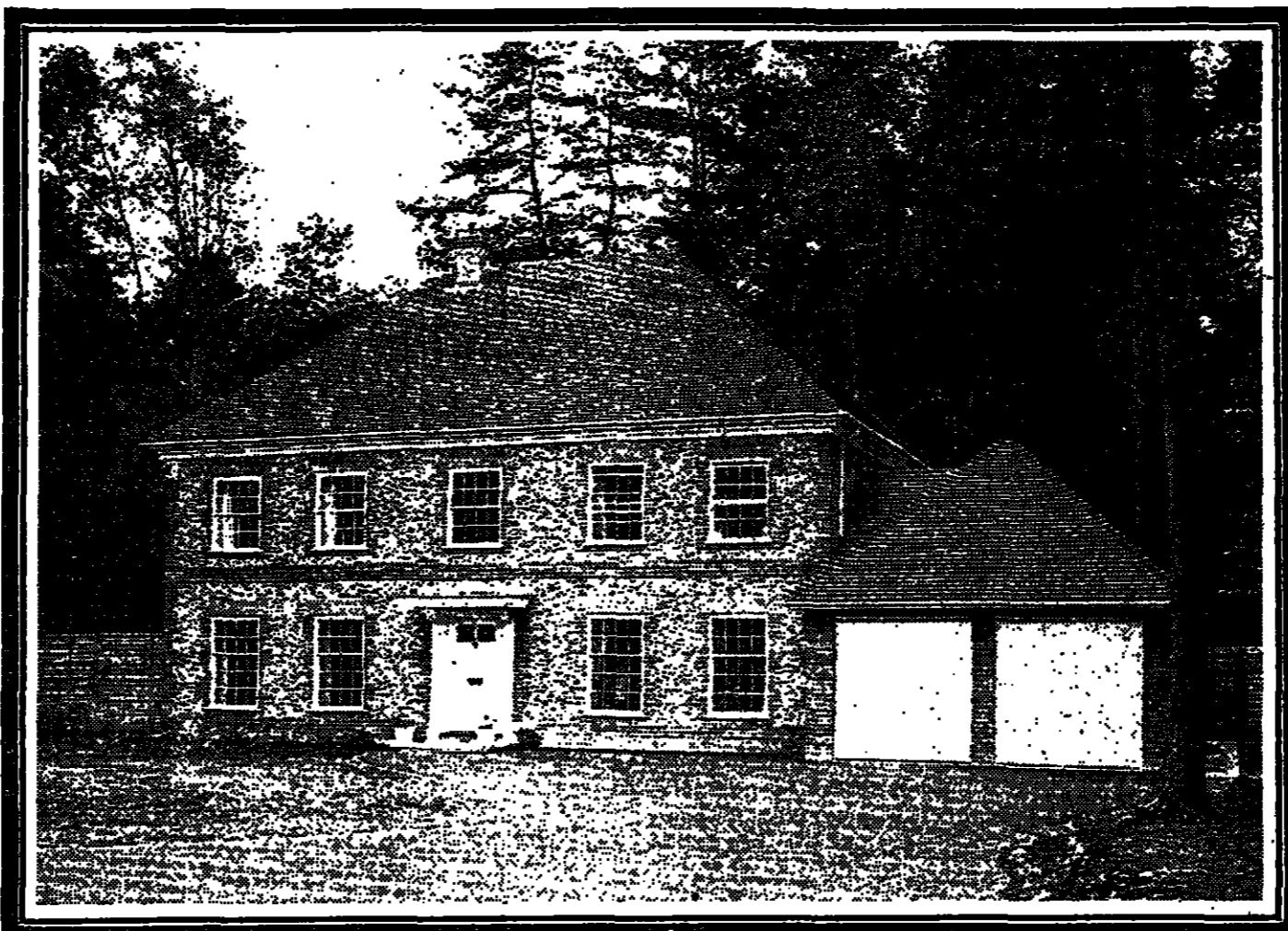




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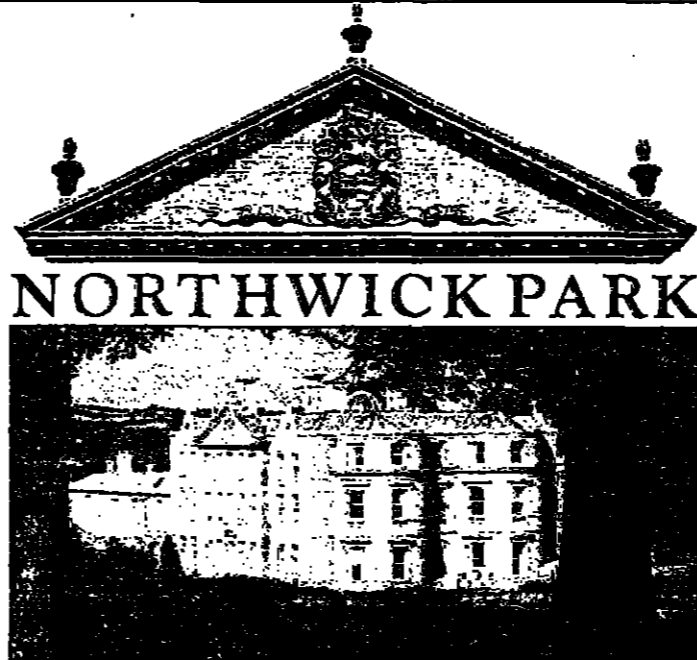
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## SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTOR KCL RESEARCH ENTERPRISES

The Director who has been recruited from industry will assume his appointment in November to spearhead the promotion and exploitation of the research potential of the College. This will involve close relationships with a wide range of members of the College and the development of further effective contacts with industry, commerce and other agencies. The pursuit of contract negotiations and arrangements for joint ventures will be aspects of the task which will also have a considerable PR content.

A lively secretary/PA is required who will be responsible for undertaking a wide range of administrative tasks including answering letters, dealing with enquiries on the Director's behalf and undertaking some basic analytical work on industrial structures and organisation. Excellent typing and shorthand skills are needed with the ability to work effectively on one's own initiative. The Director will be based at the Kensington Campus but will be away from the office for significant periods. A knowledge of French would be an added advantage.

Salary within the scale £8,432 - £9,764 inclusive (GRA 4). Applications should be sent to the Assistant Personnel Officer, Norfolk Building, King's College London (KQC), Strand Campus before 29th October 1986.

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Your chance to work in the exciting field of marketing as PA to the Marketing Director of this international cosmetics company. Dynamic, hectic department involved with product development, promotions, advertising. Good opportunity for a young secretary to step into a responsible PA role which will also involve handling recruitment of secretarial staff. Your day will be demanding and varied with plenty of involvement. Skills 90/50, £9,000, plus 40% discount on products.

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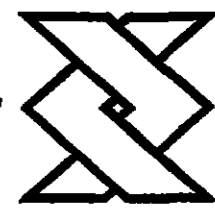
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- Have you excellent secretarial skills?
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- Are you 22-26?

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Please send detailed Curriculum Vitae's in strictest confidence to: Mrs. Linda D.M. Lees Assistant to the Chairman, Dominion International Group plc., 49 Parkside, Wimbledon, London SW19 5NB.



## SECRETARY TO THE EXECUTIVE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

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This is a challenging and demanding position for a person with a good Administration/Medical work background to organise the heavy workload dealt with by the Executive Medical Director of this prestigious Private Hospital.

The successful applicant will have shorthand/typing skills of at least 90/50 wpm, a pleasant telephone manner along with necessary tact and diplomacy required to handle many varied situations. Knowledge of the Private Health Care Sector would be an advantage.

The Hospital offers excellent working conditions along with a generous benefit package.

For further details and an application form please telephone the Personnel Dept. on 586 5950, extension 2710/2706.

**Humana Hospital Wellington**  
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## Pensions Assistant

The Commonwealth Development Corporation is concerned with the promotion, operation and management of a wide variety of projects in the developing areas of the world.

We have a vacancy for a Pensions Assistant who will work closely with the Secretary to the Trustees and the Salaries and Pensions Accountant. The role includes handling enquiries and correspondence for pensioners, staff, trustees, actuaries and investment managers as well as the usual day to day matters associated with a small busy office, including pension calculations, records, filing, arranging Trustees meetings, drafting agendas and minutes.

The person we are seeking is unlikely to be below the age of 30, will have been educated to at least GCSE 'C' level standard, including Mathematics and English and have previous experience of working in a pensions environment with all the interpersonal skills this entails. Word processing capability is desirable and list processing experience would be advantageous. A secretarial or similar qualification would be useful.

There are good promotion prospects and the salary package will include a non-contributory pension scheme, private health plan and subsidised lunches. We offer one year's service.

Applications, with a full curriculum vitae quoting current salary, should be sent to Miss B A Rooke, Personnel Executive, CDC, 33 Hill Street, London W1A 3AR, quoting Serial 2203.



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Working as a linch-pin for the charming Executive of this prestigious international company, you will be providing a full secretarial back-up based at their superb London offices in SW1. Setting up systems, liaising with offices abroad and assisting overseas Directors when visiting London, you will need to be capable, serene and flexible to keep the offices on an even keel. If you are between 25-35, have skills of 90/60 + WP, enjoy a cosmopolitan atmosphere and keep calm in a crisis telephone us now on 01-434 4512.

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Executive Partner's PA/Secretary: with good shorthand and typing skills, ability to operate a hectic schedule and assist Office Facilities Manager and Personnel Manager.

Interior Design and Graphics Secretary: to assist team and bring order to occasional chaos in creative mayhem.

Electrical Design Partner's Secretary: strong organising skills and good shorthand and typing essential.

Team Secretary: to assist Partner and multi-profession team on town centre redevelopment.

Receptionist/Typist: welcome clients and visitors and generally assist architectural team. Must be well spoken and presented.

A good standard of education is required including English Language GCSE at O level, typing speed of 50wpm and where required, shorthand of 100wpm.

We can offer WP training where appropriate, a stimulating working environment, good salaries and a range of benefits including pension scheme, private health plan and subsidised lunches. Please apply in writing with CV. NO AGENCIES thank you.

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Canadian stock-broking company requires smart, administration assistant/secretary (21-25) with good secretarial skills and clear telephone manner to join small and busy team.

Please apply by letter enclosing CV to:

Jan Holbrook,  
Yorkton Securities Inc.  
Suite 403,  
Salisbury House,  
Finsbury Circus,  
London,  
EC2M 5RQ.  
No Agencies

## SALES SECRETARY 5 STAR HOTEL 20 - 23 £8,250

Working in the sales office of a 5 Star Hotel the pace is certainly hectic and lively. You will need to be poised and capable, enjoy meeting lots of different people, answering phones and dealing with enquiries from all over the world. 80+ typing and shorthand experience.



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Do you enjoy a job well done with a boss who appreciates and recognises your efforts? If so you get this plus an excellent salary working for a partner who travels a great deal (and needs someone capable of holding the fort) servicing an international clientele. Good shorthand and typing essential as is a sense of humour.



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required at this leading postgraduate teaching hospital in South Kensington. One to work for a Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist and the other for a Consultant Thoracic Physician. For these busy and interesting posts, you will need excellent medical secretarial skills and both jobs also involve a lot of administrative work.

The salary range is between £8051 and £9189 with additional proficiency allowances of up to \$1040 for certain recognised qualifications.

Application form and job description available from the Personnel Department, Brompton Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6HP. Tel: 01-352 8121 Ext. 4456 (24 hour answering service). Please state clearly on completed application form which post you would prefer.

Closing date: 5th November 1986.

## HEADHUNTERS £14,000

Our clients, a highly respected consultancy are looking for a PA/Secretary to assist their Managing Director. As well as his secretarial work, you will be helping him to research various companies and up and coming executives. You will also be arranging many meetings and interviews with clients and candidates for which you will need discretion, good communication skills and the confidence to deal with people at a high level. Lovely offices in SW1. Speeds 100/60. Age c.25.

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A well known brand leader is looking for a PA/Secretary to assist their Marketing Director. You will be liaising with their offices throughout the world to ensure that the marketing techniques being used are effective and achieving results. On a day to day basis you will be dealing with enquiries from various international publications, arranging lots of meetings and also helping with the organisation of promotional events in the UK. Speeds 100/60 min. Age c.22.

Please call us for an interview until 6.30pm.

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This position demands excellent communication skills, tact and diplomacy. As PA/Secretary to the Head of Finance of one of the City's most prestigious companies you will be a party to decision making at the highest level and will be involved in process planning the long-term policy for the organisation. Your boss, who has had a meteoric career will value your discretion and initiative. Skills 100/60, 65/35. 01-606 1611

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You have what it takes to reach for the top, good secretarial skills, polish and a desire to achieve. So what is your next move? Come and talk to a friendly professional consultant who will give you first hand and first class information on the City job scene. 01-606 1611

## Senior Secretaries

01-606 1611

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Working as secretary to the Controller, your role will be as a link within the department, as well as handling the administration of hotel accommodation, travel and working rosters.

This is a lively fast moving position requiring good secretarial skills, organisation ability and a sense of humour.

Age: 24-30. Skills: 90/60.

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Join this leading research and project funding organisation as executive secretary/PA to their Chief Executive. You will be working in an exciting and fast moving environment in all areas of the business. Opportunity to travel, U.K. and overseas on occasions. Benefits include 5 weeks holiday and a free lunch. 120/65 skills and WP ability needed.

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An International Securities House seeks a senior PA/Secretary to their Office Manager. This position is very administrative from handling after the company benefit scheme to organising important social and PR events. Spectacular offices, subsidised mortgage and superb facilities. 60 wpm typing and WP ability. Shorthand only an asset.

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£9,500 + Bonus + Benefits

Hornes is one of the top quality names in men and ladies fashion wear. Probably aged 30 years+, you'll be highly capable and professional in approach with a mature and flexible attitude to work. Accurate typing and w.p. experience essential. Rusty SH acceptable. Benefits include clothing allowance, staff discount and good bonus.

Please write with full cv to Barbara Bond, Personnel Director, Hornes Measurement, 2nd Floor, Grosvenor London House, Grosvenor Place, London W1A 3AQ.

## CREME DE RECEPTION To £10,000

This small friendly PR Co in W1 are recruiting a top flight Receptionist.

Excellent personal presentation, intelligence and the sort of personality that will enjoy working with bright, enthusiastic and very civilised colleagues. Slow accurate typing and previous reception exp. Age 23+.

**Susan Beck**  
RECRUITMENT  
01-584 6242

## OIL CO W1 Receptionist

IBM 3750 switchboard experience pref but not essential. No shorthand or typing. Must be well presented and well spoken. Hours 8.30-5.30. LV's. Private health scheme. 20 days holiday per year.

Write with CV or telephone Miss Sandra New, Kerr-Megee Oil UK PLC, 75 Davies St., London W1Y 1FA. Tel 01 493 6080.

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Private Members Club requires a responsible Secretary to assist the Administrator. Excellent shorthand and typing skills + a proven administrative ability and initiative are necessary. The position involves a wide range of duties including provision of office services, maintenance of the building and investigating legal cases.

Age: 23 to 28  
4 weeks holiday  
Please phone: 01-629-5828 Extn: 236

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Experienced secretary wanted for Fashion Director and department of busy PR company. Exciting but pressured job - excellent typing speeds, WP experience and shorthand required. Large media office - friendly team in W2 area. Needs to be very efficient and intelligent. Please write with CV to: Christine Bryan, Lynne Frank Ltd, 6-10 Frederick Close, Stanhope place, London W2 2HD.

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Join one of London's most exciting and fastest growing banks as a dealers' assistant. Based on the trading floor you will handle everything from customers calls to opening new accounts. You'll need lots of energy and enthusiasm to keep up the pace. Conventional German and excellent grooming essential. Age 21/22.

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Ride success all the way in this Advertising Company, where skyward careers happen fast. Their Creative Director is brilliant, debonair, utterly charming - and in need of a very bright PA. Involved totally in creative TV advertising, design and promotion you will enjoy a central role and prospects of an early advance into film production work. Shorthand, fast typing and lively approach essential. Please call 01-493 5787.

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# LA CREME DE LA CREME

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 Excellent first appointment with scope for career progression into consultancy.  
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 We are looking for well-qualified junior secretaries, who have completed a sound general training and achieved good shorthand and typing speeds, eager with work experience or direct from college, to join a leading firm of international management recruitment consultants. The successful candidate will have broad ranging responsibilities, including arranging appointments, maintaining records and telephone liaison with clients and candidates. Friendly offices near Liverpool Street from BUPA, permanent address and full insurance schemes, plus profit sharing incentive scheme, providing remuneration of £7,000-£9,000. Applications in strict confidence under reference SBC22, to the Managing Director.

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 PERSONNEL TEAM of leading city secretaries with relevant experience. Must be willing to use initiative to help with smooth running of Dept. Excellent challenge for some. One looking for involvement. Circa. £10,000.  
 SECRETARY/PA with WPMG exp required for senior position in ad dept. Confidential role. Hourly salary. Circa. £10,000.  
 TEL: Maggie or Val Hilliard Plus 31 Percy Street London W1 01-436 2116

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**Advertising** £10,000  
 The MD of this West End agency needs a PA to replace the one just promoted to Account Executive.  
 This job will suit an experienced secretary who is used to working at senior level, likes a dynamic environment and wants scope to progress. Ideal age 25-27. Skills: 100/60.  
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 Move into the exciting and progressive world of TV marketing, a growth industry with lots of scope for development.  
 You'll need 1-2 years' work experience, good shorthand and typing, plus the desire to be part of a dynamic team.

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 The Joint Managing Director of Channel 5 requires a first class secretary to help him organise his day-to-day business activities, meetings, visitors, telephone calls - being efficient, charming and able to take the pace. Secretarial skills should be of the highest standard. Short-hand, typing and WP (will cross-train), together with an excellent telephone manner, organisational flair and the ability to deal with people at all levels.  
 An excellent salary plus benefits which include LV's, Xmas bonus, 5 weeks holiday, STJ, and free product. Please send the successful candidate. Please write with full cv and day time telephone number to:  
**CHANNEL 5**  
 Sally Joy Personnel Officer  
 Channel 5 Video  
 1 Rockley Road  
 LONDON W14 0DL

**Director's Secretary**  
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 The Marketing Director of one of the world's leading consumer and perfume houses requires an enthusiastic and confident PA to assist in the smooth running of a busy department involved in all aspects of preparing a wide range of sophisticated products. The successful applicant will understand that underneath the bluff and glamour, the business is competitive and demanding. You will be able to identify and involve yourself fully with the product, dealing with new launches or well as constant improvements in the marketing of old favourites. You will provide secretarial back-up and work as a team with your boss, interacting successfully with all other departments in a creative and fast moving environment.  
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 We have a temporary assignment (6 months minimum) for a versatile P.A. to assist a Project Manager within a major communications company in the administration of recruitment, training courses and the co-ordination of contracts with external suppliers. Excellent typing Wordstar WP and experience in using Database essential. Age: 23-30.  
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**City P.A. to £11,000**  
 Major City commodities company needs a senior secretary/P.A. to provide administrative and secretarial support to the Vice Chairman and Technical Director. In addition you will supervise a junior secretary. Age: 24+ with skills of 80/60/audilo and WP.  
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 We are seeking a first class secretary with a flair for administration.  
 Applicants should possess at least 3 years experience, have well developed social skills and be looking to make a significant contribution to a lively international company. Knowledge of computers and/or foreign languages is an advantage.  
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 PO Box 203  
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 The Managing Director of this small company who deals with illustrated and non-fiction books, is seeking an experienced P.A. You will need to be team oriented with a mature attitude to work and be willing to learn the contractual side of the business. Skills 90/50+WP experience.  
**CONFERENCES**  
 £9,200  
 Excellent chance to use your secretarial skills, travel round the UK and be trained in how to give presentations. As third member of this small team you will need to be outgoing, personable, good grooming and 90/50 skills essential age 20+.  
 please telephone: 01-499 8070  
 46 Old Bond Street London W.1.  
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**Marketing Team**  
 £9,000  
 This dynamic, fast moving Travel Company seek an experienced secretary to work for their Marketing Team. A lively, noisy bunch, they need a bright, on-the-ball secretary to organise them, liaise with clients, research new projects and handle all their correspondence. Good audio typing essential. Age: 20+. Please telephone 01-493 4466.  
 MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION  
**MERRYWEATHER**

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**LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE PA/SECRETARY**  
 (no shorthand)  
 Thomson Snell & Passmore, one of the country's leading professional law practices, is opening a London office and is seeking an Administrative PA/Secretary to carry out a key role in this important development. Involved from the outset, you will be the mainstay of the new office as you generate interest that every thing runs smoothly and, as the office grows, your contribution will be acknowledged with career development. To carry out this important role you will have lots of initiative, versatility, some legal experience, typing at 60wpm and audio ability.  
 Salary to £11,000.  
 If you feel that you have the qualities we are seeking and are at a point in your working life where you feel ready to take on a responsible office career development, copy in the first instance to June Cox at:  
**SYNERGY**  
 the recruitment consultancy  
 01-637 5333

**THAT VITAL INGREDIENT**  
 £12,000  
 Have you got the ability to co-ordinate an extremely varied job involving the business and personal life of a dynamic businessman with interests in high finance? Flexibility is the key to handling your own varying levels of responsibility. Initially working with his P.A. on the business side you will ultimately be responsible for running staff appointments, bank accounts and liaising with his advisors. Excellent educational background smart presentation, combined with knowledge of the law, self-motivation and a willing and intelligent approach essential as you will eventually be working on your own.  
 Age 25-30. Please telephone 01-434 4512.

**Secretary/Marketing Assistant**  
**Shipping Line H.O. in SW1 to £9,500**  
 Newly created position. The sec bit is sh/typing only 30% of your time - and even the sh needn't be fast. The rest is helping projects managers look after key accounts and wet business - increasing the share of sea cargo. You'll be a down-to-earth organiser, but with bright ideas and a good phone manner, aged 25+. Good benefits. Ring  
**Mary Overton**  
 on 01-734 7282  
 Mary Overton Recruitment Ltd, 35 Piccadilly, London, W1V 9PL

**THE WORK SHOP**  
**Poise & Style**  
 to £9,500  
 A professional secretary required to assist in the Chairmans office of this large Communications Group. A challenging role - you will be dealing with confidential information, liaising at top-level and providing full secretarial support. Excellent skills (100/60). Age: 20+. Please telephone 01-409 1232.  
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**HAVEN IN THE CITY**  
 This international Property company, owned and run by a family who have long been patrons of the arts, are looking for a flexible and cheerful secretary to work for a new Director in their stunning Georgian offices. The ideal candidate will have an interest in the arts and/or property and enjoy the atmosphere of working in a small and friendly team. Good secretarial skills, including shorthand; age range mid 20's - 40's. Hours 9.30-5.30, salary c£10,000 with attractive benefits including free travel.  
 Please ring 588 3535.  
**Crone Corkill**  
 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
 c£9,500  
 Do you really care about contributing to a company's success? Are you self-motivated and yet keen to work with a real desire to carve a career in public relations? In addition, you must be able to handle your own correspondence and have the commitment, energy level and initiative to respond well in a fast moving creative industry.  
 One of our finest clients, a highly successful consultancy needs just such a person to assist 3 very bright account executives who will care for you as much as you care for them. Telephone us to discuss this exciting opportunity at more detail.  
**01 499 6566**  
**The GROSVENOR**  
 Bureau

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**PA/SECRETARY**  
 Responsible PA required to organise the working life of the Directors of a Venture Capital company based in Belgravia. The Directors are out of the office for much of their time and therefore good organisational ability is essential in addition to excellent SH/typing. The work will be varied and you should enjoy dealing with people. Salary negotiable. Please reply with full CV to:  
**Isobel Smith**  
 1st Floor, 16 Charles II Street  
 London SW1Y 4QU

**CLERK, CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT, LONDON WC1 AREA**  
 Salary circa £8,500; generous holiday entitlement and excellent benefits.  
 You should have an aptitude for figure work plus good typing skills and a good telephone manner. Preferred age group 25 to 30 years.  
 Applications in writing, enclosing your C.V. to:  
 Personnel Co-ordinator,  
 London Post (Printers) Ltd.,  
 P.O. Box 481,  
 Virginia Street, LONDON E1 9BD.

**ROYAL HOLLOWAY AND BEDFORD NEW COLLEGE**  
 (University of London)  
 One full-time and one part-time secretaries are urgently required to join a team of research workers in a socio-medical research unit based in central London. Previous experience of WP an advantage although training will be provided as necessary.  
 Salary on the scale full-time £6370-£7611 including London Allowance. Half-time £3185-£3830 including London Allowance.  
 Please telephone Shery Gury on 01-580-7112 or send CV and names and addresses of two referees to Professor G W Brown, 11 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3RA.

**BOND STREET ART GALLERY**  
 seeks enthusiastic junior secretary to help with all aspects of running the gallery. Good shorthand and typing. Appreciation of art and knowledge of word processing/computer an advantage. Write with CV to:  
 Frost & Reed Ltd,  
 41 New Bond Street,  
 London W1Y 0JJ  
 or ring Louise Darby on 629 2457.

**MARKETING SEC/P.A.**  
 Circa £8,000  
 Busy, small advertising and marketing consultancy needs adaptable, resourceful Sec/P.A. with good secretarial skills and cheerful personality. Fine opportunity for central involvement in range of advertising and marketing operations. Friendly office in Covent Garden.  
 Write with CV to:  
**Martine Clayton,**  
 Addison Marketing,  
 39-41 Parker Street,  
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 to £11,500 incl. bonuses  
 Knightsbridge solicitors seek experienced audio secretary to work for Company/Commercial Assistant. Fast, accurate skills and enthusiasm essential. Young friendly firm with all the latest equipment.  
 Please telephone Liz Sherlock on  
**01 235 1288**

**ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY**  
 Salary c £9,000  
 Private Members Club requires a responsible Secretary to assist the Administrator. Excellent shorthand and typing skills + a proven administrative ability and initiative are necessary. The position involves a wide range of duties including provision of office services, maintenance of the building and investigating legal cases.  
 Age: 23 to 28  
 4 weeks holiday  
 Please phone: 01-629-5828 Extn 236

**ARCHITECTS' SECRETARY**  
 A personable, energetic and capable secretary required to work for a partner in a busy friendly practice in a large attractive office in Camden Town. Salary negotiable.  
 Please telephone Marty Northmore on 01 485 4161 for further information or write with CV to The Partnership Secretary, Sheppard Robson, 77 Parkway, Camden Town, London, NW1 7PU.

**WANTED - EXCELLENT INTELLIGENT INTERVIEWER**  
 For small secretarial agency. Must be confident, self-motivated and have first class background in a temporary division environment, with experience in canvassing and placing of temporary staff.  
**REWARDS - Excellent financial prospects and conditions.**  
 Please ring **Stag Agency**  
 834 4123/8

**ROYAL HOLLOWAY AND BEDFORD NEW COLLEGE**  
 (University of London)  
 One full-time and one part-time secretaries are urgently required to join a team of research workers in a socio-medical research unit based in central London. Previous experience of WP an advantage although training will be provided as necessary.  
 Salary on the scale full-time £6370-£7611 including London Allowance. Half-time £3185-£3830 including London Allowance.  
 Please telephone Shery Gury on 01-580-7112 or send CV and names and addresses of two referees to Professor G W Brown, 11 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3RA.

**Something Completely Different**  
**Rare Executive Secretary opportunity in SW1**  
 It's international economic policy research and publishing, but a regional company. You would assist the Director in meeting and dealing with top people and great trends in business and economics - and in everything from organising a conference in a 5-star hotel to photocopying and collating reports in a small office. You need good secretarial skills, numeracy, accuracy, strong character. Sense of humour and ability to work on your own. Age 24-35.  
 Salary c.£9,500.  
 Ring  
**Mary Overton**  
 on 01-734 7282  
 Mary Overton Recruitment Ltd, 35 Piccadilly, London, W1V 9PL

**DRAKE**  
 PERSONNEL INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS  
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 European HQ of world's leading group with offices from Paris to London. We are seeking a dynamic, energetic and motivated P.A. Secretary. In addition to secretarial duties and travel insurance for two persons. Conditions will be based with office and clients around the world. The administrative secretary and clerical work in our London office. This is a fantastic opportunity.  
 Call JACKIE BRINGTON on 01-734 0911  
 The Drake People  
 THE DRAKE INTERNATIONAL GROUP

**OFFICE ADMINSTRATOR/ SECRETARY.**  
 We are a small young trading company with superb offices based at the World Trade Centre. We are looking for a bright and capable secretary to help the team. Your experience will include WP (Word Star) and knowledge of a computer. Age 21 plus. c£10,000 plus BUPA. Please ring Jenny Burt 01 481 8168.

**EFFICIENT SECRETARY/ PA**  
 Required to co-ordinate busy St. James's art gallery. Must have excellent experience or similar. Initiative and good secretarial skills essential. Salary £8,000 + according to experience. Please reply with CV to Box No A07.  
**PARC LTD SECRETARY/ TYPIST**  
 £7,000  
 We are a small but established and expanding firm of financial consultants with premises in Paddington. We require a secretary/typist to work with a small team of consultants. Candidates must be a level standard with accurate shorthand/typing and a recent college leave prepared to make a commitment.  
 Replies sent CV to Administration Manager, Parc Ltd, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LG

**SECRETARY/PA**  
 £9,000  
 Lively Fulham board game company need bright professional with good typing/organising skills. Dealing with major UK and overseas customers.  
 Please call Paul Jaffe on 01 351 2833 .

**MARKETING/PR - £9,000**  
 Opportunity for marketing and PR as well as being in charge of initiative will lead you into the world of environmental marketing. Assist the M.D. of this International Company, French & German useful. With excellent Audio/Typing, call  
**Caroline Wallinger.**  
 Staff Introduction  
 TEL: 01-486 8051

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 No shorthand  
 Become part of a small team in a challenging work environment. Typing and general office duties in Baristers Chambers, W.C.1. Confident audio and copy typing essential, word processing an advantage. Starting salary £9,000 pa.  
 Telephone 01 458 1010 for an interview.

**Big Bang!**  
 £12,000  
 Prestigious Merchant Bank urgently need a top PA for the charming European Manager. Career prospects, good SH/typing skills, Italian useful.  
 01-730 5148  
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 No SH £8,500 + Profit Share  
 This is your way into the exciting world of advertising. You will be offered plenty of encouragement to use your initiative whilst assisting the group marketing team with client handling and secretarial/admin back-up. If you enjoy hard work and are looking to get out of school, call **Annabel** on 01-734 2567  
**Stella Fry**  
 Recruitment

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 Are we No. 1 choice for top PA Secretaries?  
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 To handle international clients allows you to work in a dynamic and exciting environment. Ability to prioritise for the 3 managers who deal between Europe and your office. You need good secretarial skills, numeracy, accuracy, strong character. Sense of humour and ability to work on your own. Age 24-35.  
 Salary c.£9,500.  
 Ring  
**Mary Overton**  
 on 01-734 7282  
 Mary Overton Recruitment Ltd, 35 Piccadilly, London, W1V 9PL

**FASHION TEXTILES**  
 £10,000 plus?  
 Designer of 20-25, enjoy WP/Processing and word processing to earn between £8-10,000 per year.  
 We are currently seeking bright individuals looking for a change in career. We have exciting opportunities in both West End and City - call us now to discuss our requirements.  
 Suitable (West End) £9,434.44. (City) 277-2655.  
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**EXPERIENCED AUDIO SECRETARY**  
 Required for Partner in chartered surveyors in St. James's. Close to Green Park tube.  
 For further details, please telephone Sue on 01 930 6841.

**AUDIO SECRETARY/ RECEPTIONIST**  
 For small friendly firm of Chartered Surveyors in SW2, to work as part of a team. Must have good shorthand and typing skills. Hours 9-5. Salary £8-9,000 p.a.  
 01 589 9292  
**FASHION TEXTILES**  
 £10,000 plus?  
 Quizzing M.D. divides this PA/Sec post into two parts. First, arrange his extensive travel (Paris, Rome, etc.), type at 50wpm, and be a good organiser. Second, keep an eye on the show-room. Plus offices in the largest fabric + textile Co in the world! 40% discount on fabrics.  
 Ring Kelly: 01 434 0030.

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE**  
 £12,000  
 Young successful Director requires intelligent, energetic PA/Sec (25) with 110/50 to deal with all property, aviation, bloodstock. Luxurious offices in exp. environment.  
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 01-493 3685  
 REC-CONS

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 01-486 8051  
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 Veronika Laps 597 6225  
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**2ND/3RD JOBBERS!**  
 If you have 1 to 2 years office experience, good skills, some WP experience and looking for a change of scene, we have some terrific openings in both the City and West End.  
 Salaries £8,000+  
 Call us now on  
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**Secretaries Plus**  
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 01 585 8232







A king's ransom from an Arabian treasure chest lies in store for the ice-cold genius of racing

The heir to Piggott's throne takes everything in his stride



Pat Eddery: nerves of steel, uncanny tactical know-how and the perfect racing temperament

The eyes of the world's turf aficionados will be focused intently on Pat Eddery at Santa Anita on Saturday week as the Irish-born genius of the saddle attempts to give a repeat performance of last year's win on Pebbles in the \$2 million Breeder's Cup Turf when he goes to the start on Dancing Brave.

Pat Eddery's growing reputation as the greatest jockey in the world and Dancing Brave's claim to be the greatest horse face their most searching test in the Breeders' Cup in California next week. Michael Seely profiles Eddery, a 'natural' genius.

"Pat may not be the world's greatest conversationalist, but his intelligence certainly shows through in his riding. For the past two or three seasons I reckon he's been riding at least as well as Lester," he said. Eddery himself is well aware that he is only just emerging from the shadow of the maestro.

Eddery enjoys complete privacy on his 108-acre farm just outside Thame, where he lives with his wife, Carolyn, daughter of the late Manny Mercer, and his two young daughters. When I spoke to him he had spent a rare day relaxing.

The Eddery file

FULL NAME: Patrick James John Eddery. HIGHEST TOTAL OF WINNERS IN A SEASON: 176 in 1977. BIG RACE TRIUMPHS: BRITAIN: 2,000 Guineas - 1983 Lomond, 1984 El Gran Senor, Derby - 1975 Grundy, 1982 Golden Fleece, Oaks - 1974 Polygram, 1979 Scintillate, St Leger - 1986 Moon Madness, King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes - 1975 Grundy, 1986 Dancing Brave.

Just under a fortnight later came the official announcement of one of the worst-kept secrets in the game. Next year Eddery will no longer be travelling to Ireland. Instead he will be enjoying an equally hectic existence, flying to France and sometimes to the United States to ride some of the 90 horses that Khaled Abdulla has in training in those countries as well as in Britain.

traditionally loyal world of racing was outraged, if not particularly surprised, when it was announced a week before the race that Eddery was to take over from Greville Starkey, Guy Harwood's stable jockey, on Dancing Brave, in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Eddery had been on board Abdulla's champion at Ascot solely because of an injury to Starkey.

Harwood also found Eddery to be a man of few words in their pre-race conference in the tree-lined parade ring on that sultry afternoon in Paris. "I intended to have a discussion with him," said the trainer. "But all he said was 'I think I am going to hold him up'. So I just told him that the horse had never been better and let him get on with it."

Most experts describe Eddery as a "natural" genius. And if you watch him walking a horse around the paddock with a long length of rein and his hands resting quietly on the animal's withers, you can see how his total confidence in himself transmits itself to his mount. It is the Arab proverb of "fear travels down the reins", working in reverse. "A lot of this goes back to Frenchie Nicholson, who taught me so much at the beginning," he said.

Athey cricked by captain while playing kickabout

Bill Athey is likely to miss England's one-day match with Wales in Queensland today because of a football injury. The Gloucestershire batsman, aged 29, was unintentionally cricked by his captain, Mike Gatting, who is the brother of the Brighton footballer, Steve Gatting, during an impromptu kickabout after Monday's game in Dundaberg.

Clash of top two tests reputations

James Male, the British amateur champion, is seeded to play William Boone, the world champion, in the final of the Manchester Gold Racket at the Manchester Tennis and Racquet Club in Manchester on Saturday. Male is the first high-level competitor since a knee operation. For Boone it will begin his competitive preparation for the defence of his world title against John Prens, his predecessor as world champion in New York on December 6 and at Queen's Club, London on December 13.

Coach says tired Mets need a rest

Boston (Reuters) - The New York Mets, 2-0 behind in the best-of-seven World Series, cancelled practice in advance of their third game against the Boston Red Sox here. "The ballclub is a little bit tired, as I think our performance the first two games showed," Mets pitching coach, Mel Stottlemyre, said. Stottlemyre said the Mets, who have been out-hit 23-12 by the Red Sox in the first two games of the Series, needed the rest more than they needed to become familiar with Boston's Fenway Park, one of baseball's oldest and smallest stadiums.

Oxford to make swift history

Oxford, the city whose greatest fame and achievements have come from scaling the academic heights, will almost certainly witness tonight the making of a new world record in the world individual speedway champion, Hans Nielsen, Oxford will stage a British League double-header fixture against Sheffield and Wolverhampton and if they win both they will take their consecutive run of victories to 28, and become the first team to go through a British League season with a 100 per cent record.

Batsmen's honours in tame draw

Rawalpindi (Reuters) - The three-day match between the West Indians and a Pakistan President's XI ended as a draw, here yesterday. Resuming at their overnight total of 163 for two, the President's XI made a slow start and had scored only 27 runs at the end of the first hour's play. The West Indians off-break bowler, Roger Harper, struck the first blow when he had Qasim Omar caught in the slips by Gordon Greenidge for 84 with the total 194.

A helpful delivery by Botham

Brisbane - Ian Botham took time out from England's tour yesterday to help a man who has given him plenty of problems in the past. Botham was guest of honour at a gathering here to launch a biography of the former Australian Test bowler, Jeff Thomson.

McDermott fights for place

McDermott did not sound over confident when he arrived home in Brisbane yesterday. He said: "Hopefully I'll play for Australia again - at least I'd like to think so." The powerfully built youngster should have an early chance to get among England's batsmen again when Queensland face the touring team in a four-day game which starts on Friday. McDermott and fellow Queensland Test man Allan Border and Greg Ritchie are all expected to play.

Rebel view

Somerset's cricket rebels, who are campaigning against the dismissal of Viv Richards and Joel Garner, are going public to put their case. They will present a letter at a Press conference in Taunton tomorrow which outlines their case for the reinstatement of the West Indian twoosome.

Jinxed

Billy Whitehurst, Oxford United's new £175,000 forward, who was injured on his debut against Liverpool on Saturday, has had his damaged back put in plaster. Maurice Evans, the United manager, said: "There seems to be a jinx on the wearer of the No. 9 shirt this year."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

- 7.30 FOOTBALL: European Cup Second round, first leg: Real Madrid v Juventus (8.0), Viktoria (Czech) v Porto (3.30), Borussia (Noy) v Red Star (Belgrade) (7.0), Bayern Munich v Austria Vienna (8.0), Arsenal v Stauus Bucharest (8.0), Celtic v Dynamo Kiev (7.30), Brondbyernes (Den) v Dynamo Berlin (8.0), Borussia Dortmund v Apollon Nicosia (Cyp) (1.30). Cup Winners Cup Second round, first leg: Rapid Vienna v Lokomotiv Leipzig (8.0), Real Zaragoza v Wrexham (8.0), Vitosha Sofia v Velez Mostar (8.0), Torpedo Moscow v Stuttgart (8.0), Katowice (Pol) v Sion (Switz) (8.0), Benfica v Borussia (10.0), Tottenham v Feyenoord (Holl) (8.0), Ajax Amsterdam v Olympiakos Piraeus (8.15). UEFA Cup Second round, first leg: Groningen (Neth) v Neuchatel Xamax (Switz) (8.0), Beveren (Bel) v Athletic Bilbao (8.0), Watzlav Lotz (Pol) v Bayer Uerdingen (WG) (8.30), Leipzig Warsaw v Inter Milan (5.30), Victoria Gungahras (Por) v Atletico Madrid (4.30), Borussia Moenchengladbach (WG) v Feyenoord Rotterdam (8.0), Sportul Studentesc (Rom) v Ghent (Bel) (2.0), Torino v Fasa El Goyor (Hum) (7.0), Dukla Prague v Bayer Leverkusen (WG) (8.30), Barcelona v Sporting Lieben (8.15), Hajduk Split (Yug) v Trakia Plovdiv (Bul) (8.0), Swarod Lyeo (Austria) v Standard Liege (7.30), FK Gohelburg v Stahl Brandenburg (8.0), Tofur v Fasa El Goyor (Hum) (7.0), Durdulo United v Universitatea Craiova (Rom) (7.30).





SPORT

Players unlikely to take the field

Istanbul (AP) — Despite the intrusion of politics, the Turkish football team...

The game fell victim of the intense political passions of Cyprus. Turkey invaded and occupied the northern half of the island...

The Turkish government has stayed out of the dispute and left the decision to the club, except to promise security for the Cyprus team...

The Nicosia government accused Turkey of plotting to stir trouble during the game as a pretext for launching a military strike against Greek-Cypriots...

Back to the roar of the Lions

Celtic must play with the zest of their famous predecessors, the Lisbon Lions, if they are to have the slightest chance of beating Dynamo Kiev...

Neither does he seek tolerance from a crowd which will exceed 60,000. "I want them to roar us on from the whistle," he said.

Hay admits, however, that he is taking a gamble by going all out against a side of the calibre of Kiev...

Italians launch effort to curb English hooligans

Joao Havelange, the president of FIFA, said here yesterday that discussions are already in hand with Italy...

"The basic provision for handling English spectators has been established with the Italian organizing committee," Havelange said...

Italy will be so much nearer and cheaper for travel, and English and Italian spectators were involved in violent scenes at Turin during the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain...

Letters of intent have already been received from Brazil, the United States and Morocco — who drew with England — expressing a wish to stage the World Cup in 1994...

The FIFA executive committee is only too well aware of the continuing disorder among English spectators...

More football on page 42

Northern Ireland £640,000 each for their three matches. This is in addition to 32 delegates per team receiving travel and hotel expenses...

Letters of intent have already been received from Brazil, the United States and Morocco — who drew with England — expressing a wish to stage the World Cup in 1994...

The FIFA executive committee is only too well aware of the continuing disorder among English spectators...

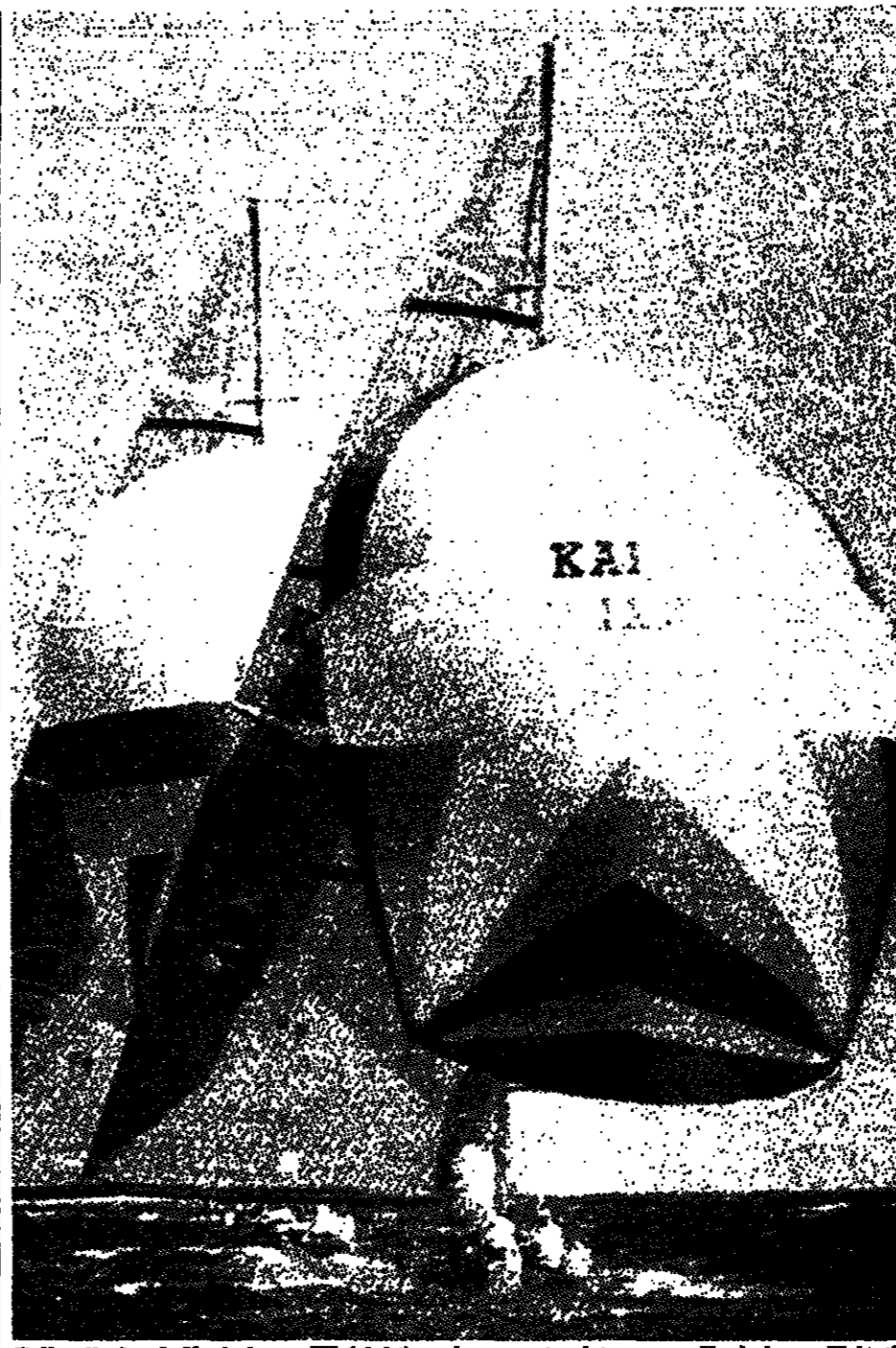
Discussions are continuing about the suitability of establishing three-man teams from a single country of linesmen and referee for greater effectiveness...

until July next year to make requests to host the 1994 Cup, and the decision will be made in May, 1988. Switzerland are considered to be a strong bet for 1998...

Although instant video-replay evidence has been introduced this year into American football, FIFA is unlikely to consider such an innovation. Harry Cavan, chairman of the referees' committee, said yesterday that it was not considered that television evidence would resolve such controversies as Maradona's "handball" goal in the World Cup quarter-final against Brazil in the first round...

The main concern of the referees' committee, meeting here over the last three days, was the absence in any match in Mexico of time added for injuries, substitutions or time wasting, despite strict instructions to implement them.

Discussions are continuing about the suitability of establishing three-man teams from a single country of linesmen and referee for greater effectiveness...



Full sail ahead: Koko Burra III (right) on her way to victory over Koko Burra II in the Defenders' series for the America's Cup in Fremantle, Australia. Report, page 39

Britain's voice must be heard



By Sebastian Coe (Gold medal winner at the 1980 and 1984 Olympics, holder of the world 800 metres record, and vice-chairman of the Sports Council)

British sport must learn from the lessons of the Birmingham Olympic bid. Make no mistake about it, Birmingham made a very good bid to stage the 1992 Games...

In my view, Birmingham's proposal would have given the Games back to the athletes. I know from personal experience that there has been excessive travelling for competitors at a recent Games...

With hindsight, it may be that this claim offended International Olympic Committee sensitivities, who might have taken it as an implied criticism of their previous decisions...

Declining influence in world sport. We all have regrets and wish that Birmingham could have brought the Games to Britain...

Young Bulgarian sisters have a mature outlook

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Two Bulgarian teenagers, Manuela and Katerina Maleeva, reduced Britain's challenge by 50 per cent in the first round of the Pretty Polly tournament at the Brighton Centre yesterday...

These results confirmed the world rankings. Indeed, if rankings were based exclusively on the four grand slam tournaments the Maleevas would both be in the top 10...

At her best, Miss Croft was the better player. She explored peaks and valleys equally well to Miss Maleeva...

Miss Hobbs, last year's British champion, won the first six points, which was promising, but lost the next nine games, which was disappointing...

Both matches suggested that the younger Bulgarians were, in fact, older — at least in terms of match-winning maturity. It taxes the memory to recall two sisters who were quite so good...

Finally, it is necessary to correct a misconception that may have arisen from an agency message printed here yesterday...

RESULTS: First round: M Maleeva (Bulg) 6-2, 6-2; K Maleeva (Bulg) 6-2, 6-2; S Croft (GB) 6-2, 6-2; H Hobbs (GB) 6-2, 6-2; K Kilsch (FR) 6-2, 6-2; J Graf (Swi) 6-2, 6-2.

RESULTS: Fourth Round: S Hendry (Sco) 6-2, 6-2; D Taylor (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; P Bevan (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Wilson (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Hurrell (Eng) 6-2, 6-2; J McLaughlin (N Irel) 6-2, 6-2.

RESULTS: Final: S Hendry (Sco) 6-2, 6-2; D Taylor (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; P Bevan (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Wilson (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Hurrell (Eng) 6-2, 6-2; J McLaughlin (N Irel) 6-2, 6-2.

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Wrexham no easy push-over

From Clive White in Zaragoza

Realistically, if you will excuse the pun, Wrexham should have as much chance of surviving the European Cup Winners' Cup second round tie against Real Zaragoza as the bulls have in the ring here in the Aragon capital...

But fear of defeat in the La Romareda stadium today is not Wrexham's problem. Real have recently been a nervous wreck of a team.

The expectations of success this season, after defeating Barcelona in the Spanish Cup and finishing fourth in the League, have proved to be too great a burden.

Last weekend they were jeered from the field after losing 3-2 to Real Betis while the substitution of Jabez, their expensive pre-season signing from Chile, was heartily cheered.

Such reports of discontent have been well received by Wrexham, themselves a picture of relaxation and informality. The only physical worries concern Cooke, who has a hamstring injury, and Pearce, the goalkeeper, who injured his neck at the weekend...

There is also a question-mark about the Spaniards' goalkeeper, Cedon, who is the tallest in Spain, but it concerns more his form than anything physical. Fraile, their central defender, is suspended and the forward, Pineda, who gave away the decisive goal against Betis, has an ankle problem.

None of this will help Pineda and his fellow forwards to remain upright once inside Wrexham's penalty area — something which McNeil has expressed a concern about. He has noted that Real squared their first round tie with AS Roma by scoring twice from the penalty spot.

Real may also find Wrexham unwilling victims or as the commentators oddly describe the more stubborn bull, el toro no coopera.

Dundee United and European competition, their task tonight should not compare in magnitude with that of Celtic's. Yet Universitatea Craiova pose a significant threat.

Like all Eastern bloc teams, the Romanians are strong and forceful and their confidence has been lifted since they knocked out Galatasaray, the well-known Turkish team, in the last round of the UEFA Cup. But they will be without their international goalkeeper, Lung, who was ordered off in the previous tie.

United are hoping that Milne, their leading marksman in Europe with 15 goals, will be fit to play.

Of the three Scottish clubs engaged in Europe, Rangers are playing in a fluent style which is sure to gain admiration as well as results on the Continent. And Beavista, their Portuguese opponents at Ibrox in their UEFA Cup tie tomorrow, are performing indifferently in their national league.

The dynamics of Kiev, page 42

Hearn rubs against the nap

By Sydney Friskin

Barry Hearn, the promoter of the new Rothmans Matchroom League next year, is on a collision course with the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association over a clash with the Belgian Classic, involving the top 16 players.

As Hearn's players will be engaged in the league programme on March 14 and 15, they will be unavailable for the final stages of the Ostend event from March 7 to 15.

Hearn said yesterday: "I only received the dates of the Belgian tournament from the WPBSA 10 days ago and the Matchroom players are committed. The tournament was held in January last year, now it has moved to March. I really cannot believe that a tournament decides dates without checking the availability of seven of the top 16 players."

Del Simmons, the contracts negotiator of the WPBSA who will meet on Friday to discuss the problem, said: "Hearn has known the provisional dates of tournaments for much longer than 10 days. Equally, as far as I know, no other Board member, beside Hearn, knew of the existence of the league until last week."

Dany Kalter, a promoter of the Belgian Classic, said: "Hearn is really concerned with the future of snooker in Europe. He should ensure his players are there. It's a lot easier for Hearn to change dates rather than change the whole Belgian tournament."

Stephen Hendry, aged 17, the youngest professional on the circuit, brought his fourth round match in the Rothmans Grand Prix at Reading yesterday to an exciting conclusion with a break of 106 to defeat Bob Chaperon, of Canada, 5-2.

RESULTS: Fourth Round: S Hendry (Sco) 6-2, 6-2; D Taylor (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; P Bevan (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Wilson (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Hurrell (Eng) 6-2, 6-2; J McLaughlin (N Irel) 6-2, 6-2.

RESULTS: Final: S Hendry (Sco) 6-2, 6-2; D Taylor (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; P Bevan (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Wilson (Wls) 6-2, 6-2; J Hurrell (Eng) 6-2, 6-2; J McLaughlin (N Irel) 6-2, 6-2.

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Sick swimmer

Stephen Poulter, of Wigan Wasps, has withdrawn from Britain's swimming squad for the Yorkshire Bank International against the United States at Darlington on October 31 and November 1 through illness.

Professional boxing returns to Greenwich for the first time in 40 years tonight. Top of the seven-hour bill at the Borough Hall is a welterweight clash between Courtney Phillips, of Battersea, and Trevor Smith, of Harlow.

The Football Association will not make a decision until next week on crowd trouble during the Crystal Palace-Millwall game at Selhurst Park on October 4.

Cannons, the national squash champions, have appealed against the £300 fine imposed for their failure to display sponsorship stickers adequately on court last week.

John Gidman, the Manchester United full back, yesterday agreed terms with Manchester City and will make his debut against United in Sunday's televised first division game at Maine Road.

Gidman, who terminated his contract with United by mutual consent, joined them from Everton in July 1981.

Great Britain meet The Netherlands in the first round of the European American football championship next month. The first leg will take place at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, on November 2 with the second leg in Amsterdam on November 16.

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Please, no stampede Mr Richard Tracey, the Sports Minister, was urged yesterday not to "stampede" football league clubs into following Luton's ban on away fans (a Special Correspondent writes). The appeal came from Tom Pendry, a Labour MP, who is chairman of the all-party committee on football. "There is a tremendous spirit among clubs to find the right answer, and they should not be pushed into settling the matter in a hurry," Pendry said. "I have asked the Minister not to rush his fences in terms of a membership scheme that locks out all away supporters." Earlier in the month, the minister gave clubs six weeks to formulate a plan of campaign. Since then Aston Villa have taken the initiative of arranging to have their first division game at Luton screened live on close circuit television before 3,000 of their own supporters back in Birmingham. YACHTING Admiral's Cup sought Already holders of the Sardinian Cup and the Southern Cross trophy, two of the top international prizes in offshore racing, the Royal Ocean Racing Club last night announced plans for a major effort to complete a treble and bring next year's Admiral's Cup back to Britain (a Special Correspondent writes). It is five years since this country won the trophy, the acknowledged world championship of the sport. A full-time coach and full-time team manager are to be installed, with the coaching appointment expected by Christmas and the manager's name already announced. Chief instructor Stuart Quarrie, chief instructor of the National Sailing Centre at Cowes. In a departure from previous practice all the team's selectors — the chairman, Jonathan Bradbeer, Tony Greener, John Allenby and Nick Ryley — are active offshore racers with no "elder statesmen" of the sport on the panel.

SPORT IN BRIEF Inter city transfer John Gidman, the Manchester United full back, yesterday agreed terms with Manchester City and will make his debut against United in Sunday's televised first division game at Maine Road. Gidman, who terminated his contract with United by mutual consent, joined them from Everton in July 1981. Going Dutch Great Britain meet The Netherlands in the first round of the European American football championship next month. The first leg will take place at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, on November 2 with the second leg in Amsterdam on November 16. Sick swimmer Stephen Poulter, of Wigan Wasps, has withdrawn from Britain's swimming squad for the Yorkshire Bank International against the United States at Darlington on October 31 and November 1 through illness. Boxing back Professional boxing returns to Greenwich for the first time in 40 years tonight. Top of the seven-hour bill at the Borough Hall is a welterweight clash between Courtney Phillips, of Battersea, and Trevor Smith, of Harlow. FA delay The Football Association will not make a decision until next week on crowd trouble during the Crystal Palace-Millwall game at Selhurst Park on October 4. Court appeal Cannons, the national squash champions, have appealed against the £300 fine imposed for their failure to display sponsorship stickers adequately on court last week.

Declining influence in world sport. We all have regrets and wish that Birmingham could have brought the Games to Britain, but our only view should be forward. The question now simply is what are the lessons for British sport. We are at another crossroads. Internationally, we need to decide what role we can and should play and how we can achieve it. Domestically, we must decide what facilities we need and go for them. Birmingham's defeat confirms our declining influence in international sport. Barcelona had the Laffa lobby which has achieved power in the International Football Federation (FIFA), the International Athletic Federation (IAAF) — and more critically in Birmingham's case — the IOC in the last 10 years. These are the three most powerful bodies in world sport. At the memorial service for Sir Stanley Rous only two weeks before the Lausanne vote, we had a poignant reminder of how things used to be. I attended that service and was struck by the list of his achievements. I believe that we need to find such men and women again and help them to regain Britain's former voice on the world stage. Joao Havelange, Stanley's successor as FIFA president — the man who claimed to have put together 35 votes for Barcelona last week — was re-elected unopposed three months ago in Mexico. Britain is the strong voice that other countries listened to. We gave many sports to the world; we drew up the rules. I would like to see us taking a decisive view on the issues of the day and thus persuading others. A force for social good Domestically, we need more and better facilities. Birmingham is relatively well equipped, as its Olympic bid showed, but for international competition we need better opportunities for many of our sports. Hockey, for example, is now poised to take off, but many of our clubs will need artificial surfaces if the new talent is to develop. In athletics we must try to meet the long-standing need for indoor arenas. Most sports could make this case. It's their job to do so. As vice-chairman of the Sports Council, I shall hope to encourage further effective investment but I must recognize that there will be decisions about priorities. Sport is a vital part of our national life. It is a great force for social good at home; it is an established way to maintain and enhance prestige abroad. But Birmingham's experience is another indicator that we have slipped than to do. It means grasping nettles; it means altering minds and policies, probably it requires unity of purpose that sport doesn't find easy.

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